



Roger Federer

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Militant group in Iraq denies killing Marine

Agonized family awaits word on fate of Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun

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A record-setting...

53 1/2

hot dogs devoured in 12-minute contest

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**AP
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION
BY XERIQUA GARFINKEL**
Stars and Stripes

Eat All That You Can Eat

Takeru Kobayashi chewed up the competition at the Nathan's Famous hot dog-eating competition Sunday, breaking his own previous world record. Kobayashi, of Nagano, Japan, gulped down 53½ wieners in 12 minutes and shattered the record by three dogs.

STARS & STRIPES

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Band brings bit of Scotland to rock



July 11: Scene

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

World

Haiti government: Caribbean leaders were expected to recognize Haiti's U.S.-backed interim government at an annual summit that started Sunday in Grenada, despite lingering concerns over the ouster of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Several leaders in the region say it's time to move forward, now that they have persuaded the Organization of American States to investigate what Aristide calls his Feb. 29 "kidnapping" by the United States, a charge Washington flatly denies.

Berlin disco bombing: Libyan envoys have delayed talks scheduled for this week on compensation claims over a 1986 Berlin disco bombing that killed three people and injured 229 others, a German lawyer involved in the negotiations said Sunday.

The latest talks, the sixth round so far, were due to start Monday in Berlin. But lawyer Ulrich von Jeinsen said the Libyan side put them off on the grounds that "necessary coordination could not be completed in time," adding that a new date should be set in the next few days.

The April 5, 1986, blast at the La Belle disco, a hangout for U.S. soldiers in then-West Berlin, killed two American servicemen and a Turkish woman.

U.N. crash victims: U.N. and Sierra Leone authorities on Sunday saw home the bodies of 15 Pakistani and Bangladeshi peacekeepers killed in a fiery helicopter crash in the west African nation, laying wreaths and blue U.N. flags on their coffins.

The 14 Pakistanis and one Bangladeshi were among 24 people killed Tuesday when their helicopter crashed into a remote hillside in eastern Sierra Leone.

U.N. officials say the crash remains under investigation.

Chechen unrest: In a rare videotape address, Chechen rebel warlord Shamil Basayev vowed to continue the separatist fight but said insurgents would not strike outside of Russia.

Basayev, shown wearing a military-style cap over his shaved head and with his trademark long, black beard, said that rebels will not target any Russians outside of the country, even those responsible for "slaughter-ing" Chechens, Ekho Moskvy reported.

West Bank attacks: Palestinian militants carried out a string of attacks Sunday in the northern West Bank, including a morning



Iraq coalition: Japanese Army Sgt. Maj. Isao Ikeda, from Hokaido, inspects automatic rifles of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces at Camp Virginia, Kuwait, on Sunday. Eighty Japanese soldiers arrived in Kuwait to replace a contingent of logistic coordinators deployed in Samawa, Iraq, on a humanitarian mission. A total of 1,000 Japanese men and women from ground, navy and air forces are involved in a noncombat mission that faces strong opposition at home because of fear they could get caught up in fighting.

ambush that killed a Jewish settler.

The Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades militant group claimed responsibility for the attacks, saying they were in response to an Israeli raid last weekend that killed its leader.

Indonesia election: In 1998, the fall of President Suharto opened the door to democracy in Indonesia, a chaotic process that saw three presidents over the next six years. On Monday, that transition marks a milestone with the first direct election of a head of state.

The vote is a gargantuan undertaking in the world's largest Muslim nation, which has at least 155 million eligible voters spread across 13,000 islands and three time zones. Former President Carter is among hundreds of observers who will fan out to polling booths, many of which are makeshift contraptions made of tarpaulins and bamboo poles.

President Megawati Sukarnoputri — daughter of the country's founding father, Sukarno — is trailing in voter surveys to Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, the former security minister who resigned from her Cab-

net months ago to seek her job. Three other candidates are also running.

War on terrorism

Japanese troops in Iraq: Chanting "No War," about 1,000 people marched in Tokyo on Sunday to protest Japan's decision to keep its troops in Iraq as part of a military contingent with backing from the United Nations.

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi has promised to contribute soldiers to a multinational force that will stay in Iraq following the U.S.-led coalition's handover of power to an interim Iraqi government last Monday. Critics say the decision violates Japan's pacifist constitution.

Organizers led the peaceful gathering with chants of "Stop Koizumi" and "No War" as they marched through a busy Tokyo shopping district. They urged onlookers to cast their ballots against Koizumi's ruling bloc in July 11 parliamentary elections.

Photo and stories from wire services

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Iwakuni planners make switch that saves

BY JULIANA GITTLER

Stars and Stripes

IWAKUNI MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, Japan — The facilities planners reviewing outlines of the massive project to relocate Iwakuni's runway onto reclaimed land realized that by making a few tweaks — flipping two areas in the proposed plans — they could salvage 150 acres of land that otherwise would have been unusable.

The changes, approved in May by the project's financier, the government of Japan, won't change the overall size, shape, cost or time line of the decade-long project, said Navy Civil Engineer Corps Cmdr. David J. Sasek, facilities officer for the station.

Instead, by moving an ordnance storage area from its current location on the northern end of the runway to the south, planners could reclaim more space in the north.

Safety regulations require that a certain amount of space — an arch of safety — cushion stored ordnance. Very little can be built in that area.

By moving the ordnance to the south, that arch will extend over

more water than land, including over Penny Lake and a future retention pond. The previous plans place the arch mostly over land.

The difference gives back 150 acres of land — 10 percent of the base's current 1,500 acres, Sasek said.

It's not added space, he said — it's more effective land use within the original area for the project.

The ordnance area will be swapped with the other feature in the new plan, the Marine Aircraft Group 12 operations area.

Iwakuni's runway relocation project began in 1996 after years of negotiations with the government of Japan. It's now expected to be ready in March 2009.

The project involves building a swath of land for the runway into the water, and transporting dirt from nearby 360-foot Mount Atago along a conveyor belt to the new location. The new strip, planned to be 8,000 feet long, will allow aircraft to fly away from populated areas and a petroleum plant, hopefully reducing noise complaints and the risk of accidents.

The project enlarges the station by 533 acres.



JULIANA GITTLER/Stars and Stripes

Reclamation work continues to build up the base for a future runway at Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station in Japan. Planners have found a way to create more usable area within the limits of the current project, expected to be complete in March 2009, by flipping two planned sections.

One of the immediate benefits of the new plan is saving the popular Gunn Park. The park was due to close this month until the relocation project was completed. It then would have reopened in the southern portion of the project.

Instead, the current park will stay open for a few years, until the project is closer to comple-

tion. When it does close, it will move to an area in the north where it possibly could have more space or facilities.

Planners haven't hashed out plans for the newly salvaged 150 acres. The park will move there, but other details are still in the air.

"There are a lot of small impli-

cations that we're still working through," Sasek said.

Swapping two areas sounds simple enough, he added, but it took incredible effort. Changing the original plans, which were drawn up a decade ago, took six months of intensive planning and negotiations with Japanese leaders, who were worried the changes would mean a larger-sized, more expensive project.

"It was no small effort," Sasek said. "We worked for six months to develop it and work through the issues."

He adds that the waters included in the safety arch for the ordnance all are within the area of sole U.S. jurisdiction, so it won't extend beyond the station's limits.

The rest of the project is still on track, Sasek said. This winter, a new port will open since the new runway will be built over the current port. That will account for about a third of the total project.

Builders currently are moving about 9,000 cubic meters a day. The entire project will require moving 22 million cubic meters of earth and materials, Sasek said.

E-mail Juliana Gittler at: gittler@japans.military.mil

Lightning postpones Kadena festivities

Stars and Stripes

Several of the planned July 4th events at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, were scrubbed or postponed Sunday after the base was visited with some unplanned fireworks: reports of lightning from thunderstorms that steamrolled through the area.

The heavy rain squalls accompanied by lightning, remnants of Tropical Depression Mindulle, fell periodically throughout the afternoon and evening.

Forecasters at Kadena Air Base's weather flight called for isolated showers and thunderstorms all day Monday, with the front expected to move out on Tuesday.

Japanese weather forecast Web sites predicted a 60 percent chance of precipitation in the morning, tapering off throughout the day.

The lightning caused a brief power outage on the base. It knocked out some base operations including,



MARK RANKIN/Stars and Stripes

A group of volunteers from 18th Services at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, takes apart tents Sunday at a Fourth of July celebration at Marek Park. The celebration was postponed until Monday because of bad weather.

For more on Tropical Depression Mindulle, see Page 9

for a brief period, the weather radar.

A base spokeswoman said the lightning strike occurred about 6:39 p.m. and caused a power flux that lasted for about 30 seconds. Most power was restored within a

minute or so, she said. The radar was up and running within an hour.

Thunderstorms and mild winds, gusting up to 20 mph, also caused cancellation of a fireworks display scheduled for the base Sunday night. The Fourth of July celebration at Marek Park was rescheduled for Monday.

Also, play in the Precise Rec Shootout Open Softball Tournament was suspended until Monday morning.

Call 339-4374 for more information.

Heritage committee hosts show

COMMANDER NAVAL FORCES, MARIANAS, Guam — The African American Heritage Committee is hosting "Impressions," a night of jazz and poetry.

"Impressions" begins at 8 p.m. July 17 at Club Rumors.

Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door.

Floor renovations cause cancellations

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — Floor renovations have caused some classes and programs at the Youth Center to be canceled or relocated through Aug. 1.

Call 366-3490 for a full list of changes.

From staff reports

Camp Red Cloud passes its savings on to soldiers

BY SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

CAMP RED CLOUD, South Korea — Camp Red Cloud Garrison has saved \$2 million by cutting costs, allowing money to be pumped back into work and recreational facilities for soldiers and civilian workers in Area I, the outgoing garrison commander says.

Lt. Col. Brian Vines, the CRC Garrison commander who leaves soon for a new posting at the U.S. Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, N.C., attributed the savings to a cost-cutting management program called Six Sigma.

He said the program, which involves all garrison supervisors, looks at efficiencies from the customers' perspective.

"We ended up saving \$2 million, and a lot of that has been in the last eight months," he said.

Six Sigma was developed by telecommunications equipment manufacturer Motorola and refers to a target the company had for reducing the rate of defects in its products, Vines said. Companies all over the world, including South Korean firms such as Samsung and LG, have picked it up, he said.

Six Sigma describes a measure of quality control higher than "normal," one in which customer expectations define "defects." In manufacturing, it refers to a methodology meant to reduce defects to 3.4 per million or less.

At Camp Red Cloud, Six Sigma

led to revamped maintenance schedules at garrison motor pools, Vines said.

"We were following a policy letter from the 1970s that showed what services we would perform on vehicles. It was taking two days to service a vehicle."

"We changed that to following manufacturers' guidelines, which require less frequent servicing because of improvements in technology. Now we only lose the vehicles for half a day and we are saving in terms of man hours and materials for replacing fluids that didn't need to be replaced as often as we were doing it," Vines said.

Six Sigma also is saving money in building maintenance, he said. "A lot of our doors are different sizes. Each has a different lock. We found out that if we bought the doors in bulk we were saving \$40,000 and they could all be opened with the same key," he said.

Maintenance staff make the doors fit by modifying door frames as they install them, he said.

Now the garrison is rewarding staff financially for coming up with money-saving ideas, he said. The money saved goes toward quality-of-life improvements in Area I.

"A lot of that money has gone back to our employees. We spent \$80,000 on safety equipment and we have invested in work facilities for employees," Vines said.

A barbecue pavilion built next to the CRC softball field in spring was paid for with money saved using Six Sigma, he said.

E-mail Seth Robson at: robson@japans.military.mil

Militant group denies killing U.S. Marine

Now unclear whether Hassoun alive or killed by different group

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — An Islamic extremist group denied in a statement posted on its Web site Sunday that it had killed a U.S. Marine taken hostage last month.

The denial by the Ansar al-Sunna Army left the fate of Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun unclear.

The group said it had no connection to a statement in its name put out on other Web sites claiming Hassoun's slaying — leaving open the possibility that the Marine was killed by another group or that he was still alive.

A Lebanese foreign ministry official in Beirut said Hassoun, a U.S. Marine of Lebanese heritage, was believed to be dead.

Lebanon's chief of mission in Baghdad "is trying to confirm the killing 100 percent, but it seems to be over," the official told The Associated Press. "We understand that he was slaughtered. God help him."

The U.S. military in Baghdad said it was checking into the report of the 24-year-old Hassoun's death but had no confirmation.

On Sunday, the military said Hassoun's status remains "cap-

tured."

The Ansar al-Sunna Army issued Sunday's statement in response to reports by the Lebanese Foreign Ministry that the group killed Hassoun.

"The media have published, quoting the Lebanese foreign ministry, that the Ansar al-Sunna Army has killed the American hostage, from Lebanese origin, who was kidnapped in Iraq," the statement said.

"In order to maintain our credibility in all issues, we declare that this statement that was attributed to us has no basis of truth," the statement said.

"We have an official Web site for publication; any statement that is not issued through our site doesn't represent us," it said.

The statement did not say whether Ansar al-Sunna Army is the group that snatched the 24-year-old Hassoun.

The claim that Hassoun was beheaded, posted on other Web sites Saturday, was issued in the name of "the Ansar al-Sunna Army in Qaim," a town near the Iraqi border with Syria that has seen frequent clashes with militants.

The original claim of having kidnapped Hassoun — in a video aired last week on Al-Jazeera television, showing the blindfolded Marine with a sword brandished over his head — was issued in the name of "Islamic Response," the security wing of the "National Islamic Resistance — 1920 Revolution Brigades," rather than the Ansar al-Sunna Army.



Neighbor Louis Garcia and his children, Mathew and Hannah, leave after delivering flowers to the home of relatives of U.S. Marine Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun on Saturday in West Jordan, Utah.

Hopeful family awaits clearer news

BY PAUL FOY

The Associated Press

WEST JORDAN, Utah — Relatives of U.S. Marine Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun awaited official word of his fate as a Lebanese news agency reported Sunday he been killed by his captors in Iraq, and then a Web site of the militant group alleged to have killed him denied the claim.

The U.S. military in Baghdad said it was checking into the claim but had no confirmation.

"The denial gave us a big relief," Hassoun's brother, Sami, told The Associated Press by telephone from the northern city of Tripoli, where some of Hassoun's relatives live.

Sami Hassoun acknowledged that the family was still worried about his brother's fate, with conflict

ing reports and no hard evidence, and was still relying from reports of his beheading.

"We are hoping that good news will come later tonight that Wassef is alive, God willing," he said. He renewed his appeal to the kidnappers to release his brother.

Capt. Amy Malugani, a Marine Corps spokeswoman assigned by the military to provide support for the Hassoun family, did not answer her phone early Sunday. Instead, a message instructed members of the media to contact Marine Corps Headquarters, where phones were not answered either Saturday or Sunday.

On Saturday, Shuaib-Ud Din, the imam at Khadeeja mosque in nearby West Valley City, met with Hassoun's family members for about 15 minutes at their home, where the yard had been decorated in recent days by about two dozen flags put up by Boy Scouts.

Iraqi troops foil car bombing outside headquarters

BY NADIA ABOU EL-MAGD

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi troops foiled an attempted car bombing Sunday outside their headquarters in a city northeast of Baghdad after security forces shot dead a man who threatened to blow up his vehicle, officials said. Two bystanders were also killed.

Iraqi officials in the city of Baquba said Sunday morning that a man driving a car rigged with explosives tried to attack the National Guard building there. The attacker got out of the car and the Iraqi troops opened fire, killing the man and setting off the explosives in the car, according to police chief Waleed al-Azawi.

Hospital officials reported that two bystanders were killed in the explosion.

Another car bombing targeted a passing U.S. convoy west of Baghdad around 8:30 a.m. causing no injuries, said Maj. Phil Smith of the 1st Cavalry Division.

In Baghdad, an explosion shook the home of an Education Ministry employee, in another attack targeting officials working with the interim government. Even low-level workers have been subjected to attack by insurgents



A U.S. armored truck passes next to a tanker blaze Sunday after an American-escorted gas tanker convoy was attacked by insurgents on the highway west of Baghdad. No one was injured in the attack.

who see the employees as collaborators with U.S. forces.

Insurgents carrying rocket propelled grenades and machine guns ambushed about 20 Ameri-

can gasoline tankers, setting one on fire.

There was no immediate word on casualties.

U.S. troops fanned out in the area, searching for the attackers.

Despite its vast oil reserves,

Iraq has a limited amount of refining capacity and needs to have gasoline imported from neighboring countries.

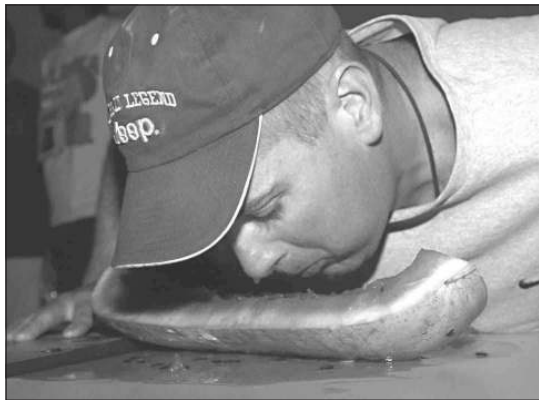
The violence Sunday was part of ongoing attacks that have plagued Iraq for more than 14



A member of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps, his face covered for fear of identification, questions a motorist Sunday at a checkpoint on the outskirts of Baghdad.

months since the fall of Saddam Hussein.

An Iraqi police official announced Sunday that U.S. and Iraqi forces have detained six members of a militant group suspected of carrying out a string of assassinations in the country's northern region. The men were reportedly members of Ansar al-Islam, a Kurdish group believed linked to al-Qaida, said Col. Sarhat Qader of the Iraqi police.



FRED ZIMMERMAN/Stars and Stripes

Capt. Dan Frandsen, of the 766th Transportation Battalion, gets a face full during a watermelon-eating contest in Kuwait at Camp Arifjan's Zone 1 Community Center on Saturday. The competition was the highlight of Morale, Welfare and Recreation's game night, which was part of its Fourth of July celebration. Frandsen finished in fourth place.

Go, Fourth! And celebrate

Forces in Kuwait mark an all-American holiday

BY FRED ZIMMERMAN
Stars and Stripes

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait — U.S. troops here celebrated the Fourth of July with an array of games and competitions, including an all-American watermelon-eating contest.

Morale, Welfare and Recreation organizers scheduled card tournaments, video game play-offs, a 5-kilometer run, swimming competitions and bingo. But the highlight of the evening was the watermelon-eating contest.

Approximately 20 contestants had each given a quarter of a large watermelon, and the first to eat down to the rind was declared the winner. Hands were not allowed, so contestants had to dive face first into the juicy watermelons, ignoring the mess.

"You just had to get past the seeds," said champion eater

Army Capt. Kelley Hissong of the 766th Transportation Battalion. "I swallowed most of them, but once you got past them and down to the meat, it was all right."

Events started early Friday when more than 100 contestants crawled out of bed for the Independence Day SK run throughout Zone 1.

Sgt. Mark Turner, 1107th Aviation Classification and Repair Depot, was the overall men's winner with a time of 16 minutes and 6 seconds, and 1st Lt. Susan Fisher, 602d Area Support Medical Company, topped the women's division at 21:07. The top three finishers from various age categories received medals, while the overall top three men's and women's finishers walked away with trophies.

Later in the day, a unit swim

See related stories
on Page 11

meet was held at the camp pool. A total of five, four-member teams participated in a medley relay — backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and freestyle. The Deuce team, made up of Capt. John Zoll, Capt. Scott Dickerson, 2nd Lt. Rachael Mandell and Pfc. Christopher Dax, all members of the 602d Area Support Medical Company, took first place. The top three teams received medals.

Prizes, including Super Soaker water guns, blankets and gift certificates, were given to the top finishers in Saturday night's games, which included competition in Playstation 2, spades, pool, Foosball, table tennis and dominoes.

E-mail Fred Zimmerman at: zimmermanf@sp1rines.osd.mil

Iran planning to file complaint vs. Saddam

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI
The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran said Sunday it has prepared a criminal complaint against former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein for his 1980 invasion of Iran and for using chemical weapons against Iraqis during the war with neighboring nations' eight-year war.

Tehran will file the documents with the Iraqi court where Saddam is standing trial, Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi said.

He did not say precisely when the complaint would be lodged.

"One of the crimes Saddam committed was his invasion of Iran and starting the war, killing many Iranian citizens and using chemical weapons in Halabja (within Iraq) and other places (in Iran) during the war," Asefi told reporters.

Iran expects Saddam will face judgment in an open trial for war crimes, Asefi said.

"We have prepared the complaint and Iran will definitely file the complaint with the Iraqi court," he said at a news conference.

"We will hand over our documents to the court ... We believe the court has to establish Saddam's crimes transparently and openly."

Iraq took legal custody of Saddam from the United States on Wednesday, and the former dictator's first court appearance Thursday dominated TV screens across the Middle East, where such images are unprecedented, and prompted many calls for his execution.

The broad charges formally outlined against Saddam included the 1988 chemical weapons massacre of Kurds in Halabja, Iraq, the slaughter of Shiites during a civil uprising in southern Iraq and the 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war apparently was not cited.

At this stage, however, Sadd-

am was merely being informed of areas where he could face indictment and there is nothing to preclude Iraqi authorities from expanding or reducing the list of charges later on.

Asefi said Iran's top diplomat in Baghdad will ask Iraqi leaders why Saddam's 1980 invasion of Iran was not given the same weight as other crimes, such as the invasion of Kuwait a decade later.

"We have asked our charge d'affaires in Baghdad to seek explanation from the Iraqis on why the attack on Iran did not feature among the charges against him, even though the judge said the question would be addressed at a later date," Asefi said.

Saddam's defense team, which includes lawyers from Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia, Libya and Western countries such as the United States, Britain, France and Belgium, has accused the interim Iraqi government and the court trying Saddam of being "illegitimate because they were appointed by the occupation."

The trial of the 67-year-old Saddam stands to be a sensation, and Iraqi leaders say it should depict the 30-year history of Saddam's iron-fisted rule, including U.S. support of him during the Iran-Iraq war.

Iraq's interim prime minister, Iyad Allawi, said last week the trial would be open, but he suggested closing it to keep Saddam from broadcasting embarrassing tales about past links to foreign governments.

The U.S. government was among those to support Saddam's Iraq in the war with Iran.

Thursday's session already was closed in good part, off-limits to the public and all but a few journalists.

Saddam's voice also was suppressed on the videotape aired on Iraqi television and no official transcript has been released.

1st AD takes big step toward home

BAGHDAD — For the soldiers of the 1st Armored Division, home has been a long time coming.

"It's Fourth of July — Independence Day," said Staff Sgt. Renaldo Valentin-Rivera of San Sebastian, Puerto Rico. "They chose a nice day for us to close out this deployment."

The division, based in Wiesbaden, Germany, was sent to Iraq in April 2003. After one year, the troops were about to go home but were told they would be staying for another three to four months. Some who had already returned to Germany were sent back to Iraq.

Sunday's change of colors, a ceremony in which the division's flags are put away to signal its departure from the battlefield, was another step in the trip home. The colors will be uncased when the troops are back in Germany.

"You want the ceremony to have the pomp and circumstance of a military ceremony, something to be proud of, and you want it to be colorful," said Maj. Brian Williams of Sanford, N.C., and Headquarters Company, who helped organize the event.

"It's got to be respectful for the soldiers we lost. We're leaving the field of battle, and we're leaving with 137 soldiers who didn't go home alive. So everything we put into the ceremony has to honor that. We had to honor all the work we've done, and has to honor the Iraqi people because we used to put so much effort into the work."

Only a few hundred of the division's 20,000 soldiers were able to attend the ceremony, held outside a hangar at 1st AD's headquarters at Baghdad International Airport.

— Charlie Cook

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Irish protest ends without incident

BY SHAWN POGATCHNIK
The Associated Press

PORTADOWN, Northern Ireland — Police blocked about 2,000 Protestants from parading through the main Catholic district of this bitterly divided town Sunday, the seventh year in a row that the hard-line Orange Order brotherhood was blocked in its tracks.

Orange leaders handed in a letter of protest to police commanders at a 10-foot-high steel wall blocking the road. They demanded to be allowed to march to the center of Portadown via Garvaghy Road, where Catholic hard-liners have mounted protests for the past decade.

But police commanders quietly said they were obliged to uphold a ruling from the British government-appointed Parades Commission.

Every year since 1998, the expert panel has said the Orange Order "won't be allowed through until the group drops its decade-old ban on negotiations with Garvaghy Road protest leaders."

Portadown's deputy Orange leader, David Burrows, told the crowd they were welcome to protest at police lines — but only peacefully.

Within minutes of that appeal, most of the crowd piled into cars and dispersed without trouble.

"There must come a time when this crazy decision to uphold the [Irish] national veto on our parade comes to an end," Burrows told the crowd.

The dispute over the annual Orange parade through Portadown, an overwhelmingly Protestant town southwest of Belfast, began in 1995 when Garvaghy Road residents blocked the parade route.

The sectarian clash sent shockwaves across Northern Ireland.

Extremists on both sides watched to see whose rights would prevail — the marchers or the residents — with the losing side primed to riot.

In 1996, police initially blocked the parade but caved in after four nights of Protestant mayhem across Northern Ireland. In 1997, police stunned Garvaghy Road by flooding the area with troops before dawn, then forcing the Orange parade through in the afternoon, fueling intense Catholic riots.

In 1998, police successfully blocked the Orangemen for the first time. The Orangemen stood their ground at the barricades for a week, then quit after three Catholic boys were killed in an arson attack in another mostly Protestant town, Ballymoney.

Since then, the protests have grown increasingly tepid amid acknowledgment that Orange chiefs' no-negotiations policy was a failure. British army engineers have ensured that Orange lines by erecting coils of razor wire, digging and flooding trenches in cow pastures beside the blocked road.

Orange leaders have refused face-to-face talks with the Garvaghy Road protest leader, Brendan MacConnaught, citing his conviction in connection with the 1974 Irish Republican Army bombing of the Royal British Legion building in Portadown.

MacConnaught said that the peaceful outcome Sunday that suits the black and white demanding "unconditional face-to-face talks" before they would consider permitting the parade.



President of Rwanda Paul Kagame, left, inspects troops on Sunday in the Amahoro stadium in Kigali to mark Liberation Day. The ceremony was held to celebrate the fall of Kigali to the RPF (Rwandan Patriotic Front) 10 years ago. At the time Kagame was leading the troops that ended the genocide in the tiny African nation.

Rwandans recall deep wounds of dark days of 1994 slaughter

BY ARTHUR ASIMWE
The Associated Press

KIGALI, Rwanda — Thousands of genocide survivors, soldiers, former rebels and farmers gathered at the national stadium for a somber ceremony Sunday marking the 10th anniversary since the fall of the extremist government that led Rwanda's 1994 genocide.

Through poems and speeches, Rwandans recalled deep wounds but also took stock of how far the country had come since the dark days of the slaughter.

"Our past was shaped by bad leadership that promoted discrimination. That is over," President Paul Kagame told the assembled crowd in the Amahoro Stadium, where thousands of Tutsis had sought refuge during the genocide.

More than 500,000 minority Tutsis and political moderates from the Hutu majority were killed in the 100-day slaughter organized by the extremist

Hutu government then in power. Government troops, Hutu militia and ordinary villagers spurred on by hate messages broadcast over the radio went from village to village, butchering men, women and children.

The genocide ended when then-rebels led by Kagame captured the Rwandan capital, Kigali, and ousted the extremist government on July 4, 1994.

"We have in the last 10 years decided to build a new Rwanda. We have achieved a satisfactory stage which should be the basis for further achievements," Kagame said. "The original Reintegrated Hutu politics and the prevailing peace and security in the small central African nation."

However, Kagame also hit at Rwandan insurgents based in neighboring Congo and their political leaders, who are mainly in Europe. The rebels include members of the former army and Interahamwe Hutu militia who played a central role in the genocide — and fled to Congo when Kagame ousted the extremist government.

Small brewery takes on narrow German beer laws

BY DAVID MCHUGH
The Associated Press

NEUZELLE, Germany — Helmut Fritsche is Germany's beer outlaw.

For the past decade, in his out-of-the-way red-brick brewery in sleepy Neuzelle, near the border with Poland, Fritsche has been unrepentantly committing what some in Germany's conservative beer culture consider an unspeakable crime: He's been adding sugar syrup to his brew — a violation of Germany's five-century-old beer purity law, the Reinheitsgebot.

Now the law is after him for daring to label his brew "beer." But he's not going quietly.

It's time, he says, for Germany's hidebound brewing traditions to loosen up.

"It's infringing on the creativity of small brewers," the 67-year-old said in an interview in his office in the Klosterbrauerei Neuzelle.

"It's like taking a cup of tea, or

coffee, and adding milk or sugar to it," Fritsche argued with emphatic hand gestures. "Some people are drinking it, and some people take it white — it's a small difference in taste."

Fritsche's battle with what he calls Germany's "beersocracy" goes back to 1993, shortly after he bought the formerly state-run brewery from the government and began disposing of the assets of communist East Germany after reunification in 1990. The brewery, which traces its origins to modest brewing in Neuzelle in the 16th century, had been making a dark beer with added sugar syrup — allowed under East Germany's more permissive brewing laws.

But Fritsche now faced reunified Germany's beer laws, which permit only malted grain, hops, yeast and water.

The modern laws incorporate the original Reinheitsgebot, first set down in Bavaria in 1516. Added ingredients — such as corn or rice — to save money or tinkering with the beer's color or taste, is verboten.

The law allows exceptions for "special beers," however, so Fritsche applied to the local authorities in the state of Brandenburg, arguing he was continuing a regional brewing tradition. He was turned down repeatedly, and eventually took it to court. His suit is now before the country's top administrative court but there's no word on when a decision might come.

In the meantime, Fritsche finished the labeling on his dark brown Schwarzer Aht, or Black Abbot, brew, which he calls a Schwarzbier — a German term for a variety of low-alcohol dark beer.

The original label didn't exactly call it beer, reading "A Specialty Made From Schwarzbier, With Invert Sugar Syrup Added Afterward."

Last year, he wanted a little farther — and changed the labels to read simply, "Schwarzbier."

That led to a cease-and-desist order last month from food safety

officials in Beeskow, the local government center. The order, which deemed Fritsche's labels a "concrete danger for public safety," tells him to change them or face a fine.

Fritsche notes ruefully that, if his brewery was located 3 miles east across the Oder River in Poland, he could throw anything in his kettles and label it however he wanted for consumption in Germany. That's thanks to a European Union decision forcing Germany to suspend its purity law for imports as part of free-trade provisions.

While Fritsche says he is able to use the word "beer" without harassment would help market his product, he also concedes that media coverage of the dispute has helped his small operation stand out among the country's 1,200 breweries.

Still, the German Brewers' Association stands behind the purity provisions. Spokeswoman Birte Kleppien, while declining to comment specifically on Fritsche,

said the law ensures a quality product and enjoys wide public support among drinkers.

The original Reinheitsgebot has been tinkered with throughout history. The 1516 original allows only malted barley, hops and water. Yeast was allowed later, as was wheat, the raw ingredient for Germany's extremely popular wheat beers, and other grain types such as rye and spelt for some beer types.

Fritsche's brewmaster, Christian Pohl, points out that Schwarzer Aht is brewed according to the Reinheitsgebot until the very last stage. The sugar syrup isn't a replacement for the basic ingredients, but is added only after fermentation to balance the bitterness from the darker variety of barley malt the brewery uses to give the beer its unique taste. He described the flavor as "a little in the direction of coffee."

It's time to let people experiment with the beer itself, Pohl said: "If you don't offer people something new, this will continue."

Sudan refugees fighting a losing battle

Militias force thousands to live in fear in bleak Chadian deserts

BY ALEXANDRA ZAVIS
The Associated Press

CAMP IRIDIMI, Chad — Clouds of sand billow around flimsy shelters that dot the parched and desolate plains. As the wind picks up, women lift the folds of their brilliant pink, blue and green veils to shield their faces from the enveloping dust.

Nearly 200,000 terrified villagers have sought sanctuary in one of the most inhospitable areas on Earth, the deserts of Chad, near the border of Sudan. They are some of the more than 1 million people chased from their homes in the past 16 months in what humanitarian workers call a systematic campaign of terror in Sudan's Darfur region.

Over and over, they tell the same story. First airplanes and helicopters came and bombed their villages. Then gun- and sword-wielding militiamen came galloping in on horse and camelback — burning, looting, raping

and killing.

"They killed my husband. They killed my children. They burned my house. They stole my cattle," Aza Jumah Tedel wept.

Tedel fled into the desert with her two surviving children, trekking 12 days on a donkey to reach the Chad border. There she waited for a month until the U.N. refugee agency took her by truck to camp Iridimi, about 44 miles west of the border.

Tens of thousands have made the same journey, forced on a desperate flight through the desert by Arab herders bent on chasing their African farming neighbors from the vast western region, the size of Iraq. Not everyone survives the journey.

"The 15,000 people who are here have lost everything," U.N. Undersecretary for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Egeland said as he toured Iridimi with U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan last week.

"They were bombed, they were hunted down by the most hideous

A child climbs a tree while her father rests outside their shelter Sunday in the Koumoungou refugee camp in Chad near the Sudan border.

campaign of terror."

U.N. and aid workers have battled to keep up with the flood of refugees who streamed across the 370-mile border between Darfur and Chad.



AP photos

A Sudanese refugee washes her clothes Sunday at the Koumoungou refugee camp in Chad. U.N. and aid workers have battled to keep up with the flood of refugees who have streamed across the 370-mile border between Darfur and Chad.

campaign of terror."

Human rights groups accuse the government of backing the militias. The government denies any complicity in the militia attacks.

Without international assistance, Chadian villagers were the first to help, sharing the little water, food and fodder they had with the refugees. But as the months dragged on, the food and water started to run out, and local villagers could no longer cope.

Both refugees and their Chadian hosts are also subject to continuous cross-border raids by the Sudanese militias known as the Janjaweed. The New York-based Human Rights Watch has documented at least seven incursions into Chad since early June.

In January, the U.N. refugee agency started relocating refugees to camps away from the insecure border area. So far, close to 120,000 have arrived in nine camps. But the process is hampered by the vast distances and the start of the rainy season, which will make many roads impassible.

To make matters worse, U.N. agencies have received only about

a third of the \$349.5 million they need to respond to the crisis on both sides of the border. At the current rate of funding, about a quarter of the internally displaced in Sudan won't receive any health care and many malnourished children will go untreated.

As the rains arrive, humanitarian agencies fear outbreaks of hunger and disease, especially in the most distant and vulnerable parts

of Darfur.

Despite these setbacks, Egeland says the United Nations and aid groups are scaling up their efforts in a bid to distribute a month's food to 1 million people by the end of July, build thousands of latrines, ward against outbreaks of cholera, malaria and dysentery.

"But we are putting plasters on the wound here," Egeland said. "What we need is a robust peace-making program."



Newly arrived Sudanese refugees rest Sunday in the Koumoungou refugee camp in Chad near the Sudan border. An estimated 1 million Sudanese have been displaced during the conflict with Arab militias, with nearly 200,000 fleeing into neighboring Chad.

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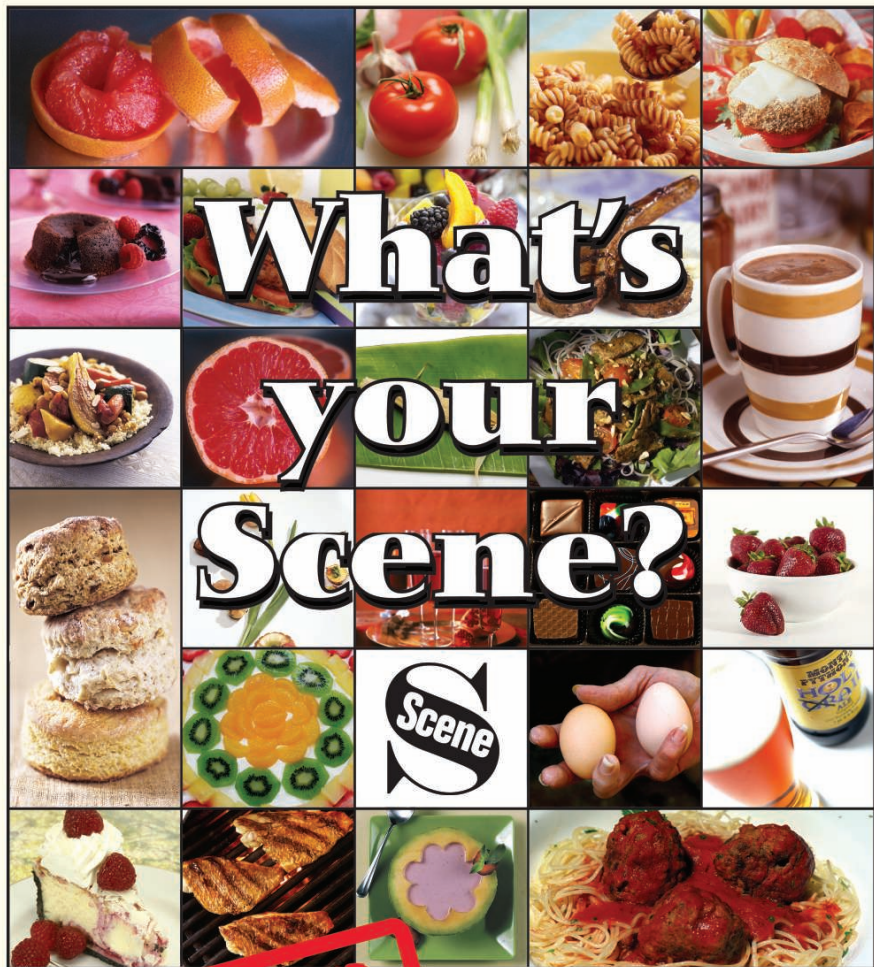
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Occupation protest

HONG KONG — Dozens of Filipino domestic workers marched on the U.S. Consulate in Hong Kong to demand the withdrawal of American troops from the Philippines.

The protest coincided not only with the Fourth of July, but also Filipino-American Friendship Day.

About 100 people chanted anti-American slogans outside the consulate and staged a skit depicting President Bush holding Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on a dog leash, said Eman Villanueva, who helped organize the event.

Police estimated the crowd at about 60.

Road trip for Kim?

SEOUL — North Korean leader Kim Jong Il has told a top Chinese leader he intends to visit South Korea at an "appropriate time," a former South Korean presidential spokesman was quoted as saying Sunday in news reports.

The North Korean leader had agreed to visit the South after hosting former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung in Pyongyang for a historic inter-Korean summit in 2000.

But the trip has yet to happen. Since the summit, there has been the election of President Bush, the election of a new South Korean president, Roh Moo-hyun, and the eruption of an international standoff over North Korea's nuclear weapons programs.

Naked harvest

KATMANDU, Nepal — Female rice farmers are plowing their fields at night in the nude to please the rain god during a spell in which the western Nepal, a news report said Sunday.

A 35-year-old farmer, Ambika Tharu, said she and other women were daring to bare all for the rain god because of a delay in the annual monsoon season and the need for precipitation for their rice crops.

Weather forecasters in the capital Katmandu — 310 miles northeast of Bajapur village, where the naked farmers are appealing for rain — said the monsoon is expected to improve in the next few days.

Satay record

SINGAPORE — Chefs in Singapore have tried for an off-beat world record: forming the longest line of cooks making the popular Southeast Asian snack known as satay, which is grilled meat on a wooden skewer.

Nearly 200 chefs arranged their charcoal barbecuers end-to-end Saturday in an 864-foot line, The Straits Times newspaper reported.

The previous record — set in Singapore in 1998 — 272 feet, the report said. The new record bid likely take several months to be evaluated by Guinness World Records, which judges such attempts.

From The Associated Press

Storm kills at least 19 in Taiwan

BY ANNIE HUANG

The Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Mudslides buried houses and rescuers battled muddy floodwaters to evacuate trapped villagers from mountainsides Sunday as Taiwan's death toll from Tropical Depression Mindulle rose to 19, with nine others missing, officials said.

The storm was also battering neighboring southeastern China, where a mother and her son drowned after falling out of a boat on a lake in Huzhou city, about 80 miles southwest of Shanghai, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

Before hitting Taiwan and China, Mindulle killed at least 32 people in the Philippines and left 11 others missing, the Philippine National Disaster Coordination Center said Sunday.

The storm pushed on toward South Korea on Saturday, but torrential rains at its fringes continued Sunday in many of Taiwan's mountainous areas.

Three hydroelectric power plants along the swollen Tachia River were flooded, causing equipment damage estimated at \$295 million, the state-run Taiwan Power Co. said.

Mudslides covered about 30 houses on a hill in central Taiwan's Nantou County, and five bodies were recovered from the rubble, the National Disaster Relief Center said.

Another mudslide in nearby Taichung County killed three people, and an 80-year-old woman and her 4-year-old grandson drowned in their flooded home there, police said.

Rivers swept three others to their deaths over the weekend, police said.

The storm, which has brought southern Taiwan's worst flooding in 25 years, killed six other people last week.

More than 10 bridges closed because of flood damage, news reports said.

The military dispatched about 1,000 soldiers to rescue hundreds of villagers and tourists trapped in mountainous regions, officials said.

Television news showed rescuers struggling to get a trapped rescuer out of a raging river in central Taichung County before retrieving a family of seven trapped in their hillside house.

Man claims he shot baby-eating dingo

The Associated Press

SYDNEY, Australia — One of Australia's most enduring mysteries, the fate of a baby killed by a dingo in the Outback 24 years ago, took another twist Sunday with a newspaper quoting an elderly man as saying he retrieved the baby's body from the jaws of the wild dog he shot.

The stunning claim, by 78-year-old Peter Cole to the Sunday Herald Sun tabloid in the southern city of Melbourne, could not immediately be corroborated. He told the newspaper he had photos of the night in August 1980 that Azaria Chamberlain went missing from a campsite near Ayers Rock, the giant Australian monolith also known by its Aboriginal name Uluru, but said the photos did not include one of the baby's bloody body.

Police initially did not believe the claim of Azaria's mother, Lindy Chamberlain, that a wild dog known as a dingo snatched the infant and she was convicted of murder in 1982.

She was freed on appeal in

1986 and formally cleared of the murder two years later after fresh evidence — an item of Azaria's clothing — backed up her version of events.

However, the baby's body has never been found. The saga was made into the 1988 movie "A Cry in the Dark," starring Meryl Streep and Sam Neill.

Cole told the newspaper he felt "pretty lousy and guilty" when Chamberlain was convicted.

"How do you think I felt?" he said. "It was on my conscience, of course it was, but I couldn't do anything by it."

He said he had shot the dingo thinking it was a rabbit to provide food for a dog while on a camping trip with three friends.

He did not report what had happened to police because shooting a dingo in the national park surrounding Ayers Rock could have earned him a fine.

Cole said he was coming forward now to clear his conscience.

He said he had contacted Chamberlain and the makers of an Australian movie currently being filmed about Azaria's disappearance.



PHOTOS BY TAIWAN APPLE DAILY/AP

A fruit farmer saves what is left of his banana plantation, which was devastated Saturday by winds and rainfalls brought by Tropical Depression Mindulle in eastern Taiwan.

In Nantou's Jenai village, where a wooden bridge was washed away by floodwaters, soldiers used ropes to pull residents from a cliff and across a creek.

At a nearby resort devastated by rock slides, about 150 tourists were placed in a temporary shelter as roads were washed away and they were unable to vacate the area, officials said.

The government broadcast an alert over commercial radio stations urging villagers to prepare for flash floods and evacuate if possible, noting that rainfall in Nantou County had reached 5.6 inches an hour Sunday.

In parts of the island where the rains had eased, residents cleaned their muddy floors and houses, piling damaged furniture along the streets.

Taiwan's Council of Agriculture estimated crop and infrastructure damage at \$41 million.



Rescuers struggle with their overturned raft Saturday in a raging river swollen by rainfalls brought by Tropical Depression Mindulle in central Taiwan as they try to reach a family of seven trapped in their hillside house.

China flexes muscle in yearly exercise across Taiwan strait

BY JOE McDONALD

The Associated Press

BEIJING — China intends to hold military exercises this month across the strait from Taiwan, as Beijing builds up its capability to back up its frequent threats to invade the island.

The annual summer exercises will be held this year on Dongshan Island off the Chinese coast and will include air, sea and land forces, the China Youth Daily said Saturday.

The newspaper didn't give a date or say how many troops would take part. China's military holds such drills at different points along the coast facing Taiwan every summer, practicing beach landings

and attacks on ship targets by ships and warplanes. Tens of thousands of troops take part.

China has threatened repeatedly to invade Taiwan, which has been ruled separately since 1949. But the 2.5 million-member People's Liberation Army, which until recently lacked the ability to carry out a war across the 100-mile-wide Taiwan Strait.

Beijing has spent heavily in recent years to expand the PLA's naval arm, building warships and landing craft that could support an invasion and other forces that could help blockade Taiwan.

Beijing has spent heavily in recent years to expand the PLA's naval arm, building warships and landing craft that could support an invasion and other forces that could help blockade Taiwan.

Chinese officials say the annual military drills are routine, but state-controlled media often highlight their focus on capturing islands.

Cornerstone opens WTC site construction

BY AMY WESTFELD

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Construction officially began on the skyscraper replacing the destroyed World Trade Center towers Sunday with the laying of a granite cornerstone that rebuilding leaders said symbolized America's resilience after Sept. 11, 2001.

A crane lifted the 20-ton stone, quarried from the Adirondack Mountains, and placed it in the southeastern corner of the Freedom Tower's foundation. The inscription read, "To honor and remember those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 and as a tribute to the enduring spirit of freedom — July Fourth, 2004."

Gov. George E. Pataki said he chose to begin construction on the 1,776-foot tower — no other building in the world is taller — on July 4 to show that terrorists who brought down the towers on Sept. 11 didn't destroy the country's faith in freedom.

"Let this great Freedom Tower show the world that what our enemies sought to destroy — our democracy, our freedom, our way of life — stands taller than ever," Pataki told more than 500 people gathered at the 16-acre site.

New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey said, "We reclaim this ground in the names of those who we have lost." The 13-year-old son of a police officer killed on Sept. 11 read portions of the Declaration of Independence.



New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, third from right, touches the cornerstone for the Freedom Tower at Ground Zero at the World Trade Center site during an unveiling ceremony in New York on Sunday. With him are New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey, right, New York Gov. George Pataki, second from right, and site owner Larry Silverstein, behind.

The stone and its inscription will eventually disappear from view, as crews work over the next year to remove ruins of a parking garage and share up the 70-foot-deep foundation before building the Freedom Tower above street level. Parts of the parking garage will go to a storage hangar at John F. Kennedy In-

ternational Airport for historic preservation.

When it is ready for occupancy in 2009, the twisting glass and steel tower, topped by a 276-foot spire designed to evoke the Statue of Liberty, will include 2.6 million square feet of office space on 72 floors. Sixty stories of office space will be topped by 10 stories

of open-air retail and restaurant space, an observation deck and energy-generating windmills.

Trade center leaseholder Larry Silverstein has plans to build four more towers between 2009 and 2015, although some have questioned whether he still has the money to do so after losing a trial aimed at doubling his \$3.5 billion

insurance policy.

Silverstein has said he has more than enough money to build the Freedom Tower, budgeted at \$1.5 billion, and will use "traditional financing methods" to pay for the rest of the development.

Construction is also planned for a memorial that would transform the twin towers' footprints into reflecting pools and cultural space including several small theaters.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg noted that once again, "the world's tallest building will rise in lower Manhattan."

The 110-story trade center towers, completed in 1972, were 1,350 feet tall. The current tallest building is the 1,676-foot-tall Taipei 101 in Taipei, Taiwan, which was completed in October.

Family members attending the ceremony were pleased that construction was under way.

"It's a new beginning," said John Foy, whose mother-in-law, Rita Blay, was killed in the south tower. "We all need to move on and rise above this."

He said that he liked the Freedom Tower's design, but is also "a little nervous, 'cause it's very tall."

A group of family members passed out pictures of the tower footprints outside the ceremony, saying they couldn't support the rebuilding until they were assured the historic elements of the site would be protected.

Cheney caters to heartland

BY NANCY BENAC

The Associated Press

WHEELING, W.Va. — Firing back in the debate over American values, Vice President Dick Cheney used his first campaign bus tour to label Democrat John Kerry "on the left, out of the mainstream and out of touch with the conservative values of the heartland."

Cheney, serving notice Saturday that President Bush's campaign won't cede what has traditionally been a favorite Republican issue, told a cheering crowd at Wheeling Park High School: "Sometimes I think John Kerry develops amnesia out on the campaign trail. His latest thing is to tell audiences that he holds conservative values."

"Did he forget his voting record, a voting record that makes him the most liberal member of the United States Senate?" Cheney asked. He cited Kerry's votes against a ban on flag-burning, tax relief and banning what opponents call partial-birth abortion.

"On these and a whole host of values, John Kerry's votes and



Vice President Dick Cheney raises his hands to quiet his supporters as they chant "Four more years," at a rally at Wheeling Park High School in Wheeling, W.Va., on Saturday.

statements over the decades that he's been in office put him on the left, out of the mainstream and out of touch with the conservative values of the heartland."

The Kerry campaign was quick to respond. "Considering that Dick Cheney got five deferments from the military to avoid combat, he's the last person who should be attacking Vietnam veteran John Kerry's commitment to the flag," said spokesman Phil Singer. He added that if the Bush campaign chooses to use "shrill speeches, they're going to do so at their own peril."

Cheney declared it "a great day for a bus ride" at the outset of a two-day tour in a red, white and blue bus through Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, three battleground states in the electoral politics of 2004. In fact, it was a

day of dueling bus tours as Kerry's campaign staked out the highways of Wisconsin and Iowa.

First stop for Cheney: the sweltering banquet hall of St. Josephat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Parma, Ohio, where hundreds of Republican faithful belated cheers for the Republican ticket and plentiful boos at the mere mention of Kerry.

"This is the good part of the speech," Cheney grinned, as he launched into a scathing critique of Kerry's economic policies.

"His big idea for cheering up the country? Raise your taxes," Cheney declared.

The vice president brought along his wife, Lynne, daughter Mary and 10-year-old granddaughter Kate for some holiday-weekend retail politicking.

Draft of Democrats' platform focuses on national security

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Democratic Party pledges an unrelenting struggle against terrorism and a commitment to seeing Iraq succeed, according to a statement of election principles shaped heavily by national security issues.

A draft released Saturday of the party's 2004 platform offers few departures from Democratic orthodoxy on social and economic issues and hews to the agenda of its presidential candidate, John Kerry.

In one shift from the 2000 platform, Democrats dropped a reference to endorsing the Kyoto treaty on global warming. Also, the Clinton-era embrace of the death penalty is gone.

The document is predictably critical of President Bush and the manner in which he "rushed to

war" in Iraq. But it does not call the war a mistake, saying people of good will can disagree on that.

Kerry has said he would repair America's international alliances and build a genuine multinational coalition to secure Iraq, and the platform emphasizes that Democrats will not abandon Baghdad.

Having "gone to war, we cannot afford to fall at peace," it says. "We cannot allow a failed state in Iraq that inevitably would become a haven for terrorists and a destabilizing force in the Middle East."

While his party was adopting Kerry's position on Iraq, the candidate himself outlined his ideas Sunday in a Washington Post op-ed column in which he said, "We should jump-start large-scale investment with an international high commissioner to coordinate economic assistance and organize and implement ... diplomatic initiatives."

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Law enforcement personnel check bags of visitors at a security checkpoint along the National Mall in Washington, D.C., on Sunday. Security was heavy across the country as cities celebrated the Fourth of July.

America lets freedom ring

The Associated Press

The leader of war-torn Afghanistan got a Philadelphia Liberty Medal to mark Fourth of July observances around the nation, and a 20-ton granite cornerstone was laid for the planned Freedom Tower at the site of the World Trade Center.

It was also a day for parades, picnics, fireworks and summer stunts such as the annual hot dog eating contest at New York City's Coney Island.

Outside Boston City Hall, in sight of historic buildings including Faneuil Hall and the Old State House, hundreds gathered for the opening of the city's annual celebration.

"The Fourth of July has special meaning in Boston," Mayor Tom Menino said before a fire and drum corps dressed in Revolutionary War uniforms marched past the audience. "Our country and everything we stand for started right here in these streets."

Eris Burton, who came to the United States from her native Panama 24 years ago, wore a red, white and blue sweater to the Boston festivities.

"Some of us should appreciate more what we have," said Burton, saying she considered her attendance a way of remembering victims of the Sept. 11,

2001, terrorist attacks and U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

At Independence Hall, Hamid Karzai, the U.S.-backed leader of Afghanistan who took over after the Taliban regime was ousted in 2001, was awarded the Philadelphia Liberty Medal, given each July 4 by the nonprofit, nonpolitical Philadelphia Foundation to recognize leadership in the pursuit of freedom.

"The Afghanistan people have sacrificed terribly to obtain freedom. In the resistance against the Soviet occupation and the fight against terrorism and extremism, we lost nearly 2 million of our people," said Karzai. "We have paid for it with our lives and we will defend it with our lives."

The medal's \$100,000 prize will go to support Afghan orphans, he said.

Some holiday festivities produced something totally unexpected.

Two young bull moose, each more than 6 feet tall and weighing hundreds of pounds, crashed the Fourth of July parade at Brighton, Utah, in the mountains east of Salt Lake City, coming within a few feet of spectators.

"I told my family, that's something you don't see at the downtown parades," Jeff Worthington said after Saturday's celebration at Brighton.

Japanese man still top dog at Nathan's eating competition

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — When it comes to eating hot dogs, "The Tsunami" may just be unstoppable.

For the fourth straight year, the rail-thin Takeru Kobayashi of Japan swept over his competition Sunday at Nathan's Famous hot dog eating competition at Coney Island, gulping down 53½ wieners in 12 minutes, and shattering his own world record by two dogs.

The closest competitor was newcomer Nobuyuki Shirota, 25, of Tokyo, who made an impressive showing but was still left with his fellow countryman's dust with a mere 38.

Once again, the contest's coveted Mustard Yellow Belt will return to Japan. Since 1996, the Japanese have dominated the compe-

tion and only one American — New Jersey's Steve Keiner in 1999 — has captured the belt at the signature July 4 extravaganza.

On Sunday, the 5-foot-7, 132-pound Kobayashi, of Nagano, Japan, employed his trademark method of snapping the dogs in half before swallowing them to destroy the 19 other contestants. He ate an average of one every 13 seconds in the nauseating-to-watch 12-minute display of gastronomic supremacy.

In the shadow of Kobayashi's dominance, 100-pound Sonya "The Black Widow" Thomas, 36, of Virginia, set two records of her own by eating 32 hot dogs — more than any other American, and any other woman, in the contest's history. Thomas came to the United States from South Korea in 1997.



Takeru Kobayashi, of Nagano, Japan, shoves two hot dogs at a time into his mouth during the Nathan's Famous Fourth of July International Hot Dog Eating contest in New York. Kobayashi broke his previous record of 50½ hot dogs by eating 53½ hot dogs in 12 minutes.

Bush defends war on Iraq

By PETE YOST
The Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Defending the war in Iraq, President Bush said on Independence Day that America is safer because Saddam Hussein is in a prison cell.

The military's job is "to capture and kill terrorists so we do not have to face them here," Bush told a cheering crowd outside the West Virginia Capitol. An enthusiastic audience of several hundred people waving American flags chanted, "Four more years."

In his ninth visit to the state since taking office, Bush made a pitch for support from veterans, who he said have set "a good example for those who have followed ... in Afghanistan and Iraq."

The Bush administration has come under increasing criticism after a staff report from the commission investigating the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks found little evidence of a collaboration between the ousted Iraqi leader and Osama bin-Laden's terrorist organization. Such a link was one of the administration's main justifications for invading Iraq.

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more questions surface about workplace shooter

BY HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Elijah Brown's co-workers always had a hard time making sense of him. He paced, he talked to himself, he got bothered over teasing that wouldn't faze other people.

Questions about the 21-year-old meatpacking plant worker grew exponentially Saturday, after he used two handguns to shoot seven co-workers, killing six of them, before killing himself.

Police did not offer a motive for Friday's 10-minute rampage, but they said there appeared to be nothing random about the killings at the Kansas City, Kan., ConAgra Foods Inc. plant. They said he passed by some co-workers, telling them, "You haven't done anything to me, so you can go."

"This person acted with purpose, he knew exactly what he was doing," Police Chief Ron Miller said.

Three of those killed were members of an extended family, and a relative said Brown had had an argument with one of them.

Lonnie Ellingburg, 46, was uncle by marriage to Travis Nelson, 25, both of Kansas City, Kan., and nephew to Ardell L. Edwards, 55, of Grandview, Mo., relatives said.

"We've got to get ready for a triple funeral — my daddy, my uncle, my cousin," said Ellingburg's daughter Deya Barnett.

Wounded were Juan Ramirez, 44, of Kansas City, Kan.; and Victor Coggs, 60, of Harrisonville, Mo. A spokesman at The University of Kansas Hospital said Coggs was treated and released Friday night, while police said Ramirez's injuries were not life-threatening.

Ellingburg's brother-in-law, David Pledger, of Kansas City, Kan., said there had been a "tiff" between Travis Nelson and Brown. He speculated that the other two victims were "probably just in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Brown, of Kansas City, Kan., had no criminal record, but co-workers described him as strange. He was often teased at work, but not for anything in particular, said Kain Peterson, a plant worker.

Plant worker Andre Porter, an acquaintance of Brown's who sometimes offered him rides, chatted casually with Brown in the locker room before the shooting started. Porter now thinks Brown had gone there to retrieve his guns.

A short time later, Porter heard popping noises in the hallway and saw Brown approaching him.

Brown took off running, and Porter said he found Nelson's body covered in blood in the hallway a short time later. The rest of the victims were shot in the break room.

Porter said he doesn't know if the friendly chit-chat with Brown saved his life.

Police on Friday night described Brown as a disgruntled employee, and Miller wasn't willing to speculate beyond that assessment on Saturday.

"There is in some respect a reason this person did it, but why exactly that happened or what pushed him to do that, we really don't know," Miller said.

Brown had been laid off from the plant, but he returned to work a few months ago, ConAgra spokeswoman Julie DeYoung said. The shooting started after an afternoon meeting, but Miller



Victor Coggs, right, who was a victim in the multiple workplace shooting Friday at the ConAgra plant in Kansas City, Kan., recounts the events on Saturday at his home in Harrisonville, Mo. His girlfriend, Susan Meyer, sits in the background.

said witnesses told police there had been no arguments.

Police didn't reveal much about Brown, saying only he was unknown to them and had some family in the area. DeYoung declined to discuss Brown's work record or say whether he had a history of trouble at the plant.

The plant, which operates 24 hours a day, was to remain closed indefinitely while the shooting was being investigated, DeYoung said. Located about four miles southwest of downtown Kansas City, Mo., the plant produces processed and sliced meats for deli and sandwich products, company spokesman Bob McKeon said.

Jesse Bautista, right, and Samantha Frank, from Oregon, work to put out hot sparks from the Wolf Creek fire around a cabin near Chena Hot Springs, about 60 miles from Fairbanks, Alaska, on Saturday.

Cool weather helps fight fires in Alaska

BY RACHEL D'ORIO
The Associated Press

FAIRBANKS, Alaska — Cooler weather provided relief Saturday for crews battling two wildfires near Fairbanks in Alaska's Interior, but extremely dense smoke grounded firefighting aircraft and prevented hundreds of people from returning to their homes.

Towering smoke clouds from the biggest fire were visible in Fairbanks, 30 miles to the south, where the sky was beige and the air smelted of soot.

"The good news today is that both the Boundary and Wolf Creek fires have spread much less in the last 24 hours than they have in previous days," said

Sarah Gallup, a spokeswoman for the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center.

The Boundary fire was 15 percent contained Saturday and had blackened 280,000 acres, authorities estimated.

The dense smoke hampered efforts to reopen areas that had been evacuated Tuesday when the Boundary fire tripled in size. Hundreds of people sought refuge in Fairbanks, Alaska's second-largest metropolitan area with about 82,000 residents.

An evacuation order remained in effect for 277 homes and 12 businesses close to the fire about 30 miles north of Fairbanks. The blaze had burned through part of the evacuation zone and one home was reported damaged, fire officials said Saturday.

The Wolf Creek fire, 50 miles northwest of Fairbanks, had charred 174,000 acres in a popular recreation area. Several people living in the area had voluntarily left their homes.

Fire managers discovered Saturday that the fire burned five cabins Thursday, but they said it could take days to determine the full extent of the damage.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (July 6)	106.50
S. Korean won (July 3)	1,124.00
Euro	\$1.2469
British pound	\$1.86
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.8339
Canada (Dollar)	1.270
Denmark (Krone)	6.116
Egypt (Pound)	2.62
Euro	\$1.232
Hong Kong (Dollar)	1.79
Hungary (Forint)	206.31
India (Rupee)	72.15
Israel (Shekel)	4.683
Japan (Yen)	106.5
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2947
Norway (Krone)	1.0670
Philippines (Peso)	55.9
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	2.759
Singapore (Dollar)	1.7115
S. Korea (Won)	1,125.0
Switzerland (Franc)	1.232
Thailand (Baht)	40.80
Turkey (Lira)	1,470,588.00
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For medical currency in Germany, (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign bank rates to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars to pound, and the euro, which is dollars to euro.)	

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Mercile close	
Gold	\$296.30
Silver	\$5.98

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.25
Discount rate	2.25
Federal funds market rate	1.75
3-month bill	1.29
30-year bond	5.21
Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America, Bloomberg.com	

Cents and Sensibility Money tip of the day Emergency information

CBS MarketWatch

NEW YORK — In a household emergency such as a fire or natural disaster, you may have minutes to get yourself and your family out of harm's way. Imagine if you also had to worry about rescuing all your important personal and financial documents as well.

Bankrate.com reports that you should save any important documents in a secure place, such as a fireproof box or a safe deposit box. You should collect:

- Bank account records
- Marriage certificates and divorce decrees titles
- Deeds or registrations for property and vehicles

■ Mortgage and other loan information

- Insurance policies
- Investment records
- Credit-card statements
- Income tax information
- Social Security cards
- Births
- Birth certificates
- Copies of your identification cards such driver's license, green card or passport

You also should get a list of phone numbers, mailing and e-mail addresses for important contacts. If you keep the information in your home, make sure each family member knows where to find it.

Purdue lab uses lumber DNA to get tree thieves

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Maybe the crime-solvers at a Purdue University tree lab could inspire a new TV series: "Law & Order: Special Botany Unit."

The scientists used DNA testing to identify the stump of a stolen black walnut tree with two logs sold to a lumber mill 60 miles away.

"This DNA technology put the log back on the stump," said Keith Hesse, a molecular geneticist at Purdue's Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center.

The case began in November when an unnamed law enforcer in western Indiana's Warren County contacted the state Department of Natural Resources after finding the stumps and chain-

sawed branches of a black walnut tree and a black cherry tree on his property. The wood from the 55-foot-tall black walnut was worth at least \$2,500.

Conservation officer Don Dyson said a timber-cutting crew had been working in the area when the trees were cut, and a timber mill the harvester voluntarily sells to had two large black walnut logs that appeared to match the missing tree.

DNK employees met with scientists from the Purdue center after a state forester mentioned they regularly perform DNA tests on trees as part of their research.

A tree-poaching conviction could have cost the timber-cutter his state license, but he paid the landowner \$9,000 — about three times the value of the trees — to avoid going to court.

FACES 'N' PLACES

Kracker gone country

On the strength of toppling Celine Dion, Kid Rock's DJ teams with Kenny Chesney

BY DAN NAILLEN
Salt Lake Tribune

Billboard magazine, the music industry's business bible, has charts dedicated to virtually every genre and subcategory under the sun, and it's no surprise that the reigning queen of "Adult Contemporary Mainstream" until this year was power ballader Celine Dion.

What is surprising, however, is who knocked Mrs. Titanic off her perch — the man known to attentive fans as Uncle Kracker.

To his family as Matt Shaffer and to most others as Kid Rock's DJ, his cover of Dobie Gray's pop-soul hit "Drift Away," featuring an appearance by Gray himself, managed to eclipse "My Heart Will Go On" earlier this year.

Not too shabby for a guy who didn't seem destined for a solo career, given that his day job in Kid Rock's Twisted Brown Trucker Band kept him pent up behind two turntables for years. But once Kid Rock broke through, Kracker's own skills as a writer of easy-to-swallow, country-tinted pop-rock came to the attention of record label executives. Now he's touring with country star Kenny Chesney in support of his third album, "72 and Sunny."

Given Kid Rock's heart-on-sleeve love of country, it's natural that fellow Michigan native and best friend Kracker loves the twangy stuff, too. But the No. 1 success of his duet with Chesney on "When the

Sun Goes Down" is remarkable considering the hard-rock circles Kracker ran in earlier.

Talking to Kracker, though, it becomes clear he was always a country boy.

"They seem like they are two totally different worlds that seem so far apart, but they are really not," Kracker said, describing the difference between the rock world and country community. "I like to say, 'It's the same dance, different song.'"

"More people like country music than think they do. Some of those people just don't know they like country music. If you ask people if they like The Eagles, I don't think I could find one person to say, no ... And if they weren't from California, they would call them country. I'd like to take people to someone like Jerry Jeff

"... [T]hese Kenny Chesney kids don't scare me."

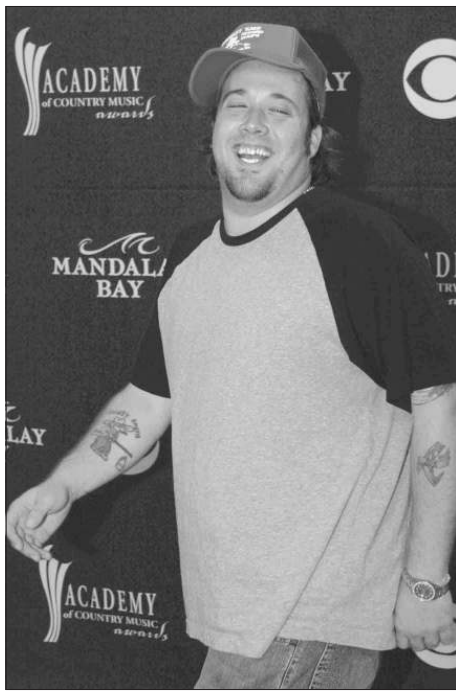
Uncle Kracker

On touring as an opening act for duet partner Chesney

Walker and ask, 'Do you like that? You do? That's country.'"

Kracker's music would not appear to be country at first listen, but it can easily fit next to the crossover country acts sharing the bill, Chesney and Rascal Flatts. Now that he's had three albums and a handful of hits, Kracker feels good about getting on stage with anyone. Playing for a country audience isn't too difficult, he said.

"At first, I didn't really know what to expect, but I've opened up for people like Hank Williams Jr., and I've had to play for a much older and much more stubborn crowd," Kracker said. "So these Kenny Chesney kids don't scare me."



Uncle Kracker arrives at the 39th annual Academy of Country Music Awards at the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino in Las Vegas in May. After gaining recognition as Kid Rock's DJ, Kracker is making his mark on the adult contemporary and country music charts. Said Kracker, "They seem like they are two totally different worlds that seem so far apart, but they are really not ... More people like country music than think they do."

Refusing to show 'Fahrenheit'

The president of a company that owns movie theaters in Iowa and Nebraska is refusing to show director Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11."

R.L. Fridley, owner of Des Moines-based Fridley Theatres, says the controversial documentary incites terrorism.

Fridley said in an e-mail message to company managers that the company does not "play political propaganda films from either the right or the left."

"Our country is in a war against an enemy who would destroy our way of life, our culture and our people," Fridley wrote.

"These barbarians have shown through [the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001] and the recent beheadings that they will stop at nothing. I believe this film emboldens them and divides our country even more."



Moore

"Fahrenheit 9/11" won best picture at the 2004 Cannes Film Festival and has grossed millions of dollars at the box office.

'Simple Life' mom upset

The Arkansas farm family that hosted heiress Paris Hilton and her friend Nicole

Richie for the first season of "The Simple Life" says life has not always been easy since the show aired.

Albert and Janet Leding of Altus took in the two in while Fox television crews filmed the glamorous pair cleaning chicken coops and examining cows.

This season they are driving a recreational vehicle from Florida to California on "The Simple Life 2."

The Ledings say they have received phone calls from mail and dozens of friendly phone calls since the first season aired. But mom Janet Leding says one message hurt



Hilton

her feelings.

When Entertainment Weekly magazine asked Hilton last month if she kept in touch with the Ledings, she replied, "I changed my number."

Leding wonders why.

"She made us sound like we were trying to stalk her," Janet Leding said. "Who's been calling her? We talked to them a couple of times right after they left. Nicole — I talked to her about three times. We weren't trying to call them all the time. We don't care one way or other."

Great White's unfortunate gig

The rock band whose pyrotechnics sparked a fire that killed 100 people was booked to play an outdoor concert Sunday coinciding with the nearby July 4 fireworks show for St. Petersburg, Fla.

Great White's concert is set to begin an hour before the fireworks start going off three blocks away, a backdrop that club owner and concert promoter John Claude Bodziak considered ironic when booking the date.

"I don't want people to get the wrong

idea, that I arranged for this date," Bodziak said. "July 4th was the only date left."

Big Easy: 'Hollywood South'

A basketball film starring Ben Affleck is among a number of major film and television projects to be shot in the New Orleans area, prompting the city and state to launch an effort to earn the Big Easy another nickname: "Hollywood South."

In the two years since the state of Louisiana created a tax break for film companies, the New Orleans area has attracted more than \$200 million in such projects, Mayor Ray Nagin said Friday.

"We are attracting major motion pictures to our city," Nagin said. "There's so much work we're not able to train individuals quickly enough, so we're importing way too much talent."



Affleck

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

STARS AND STRIPES

OPINION

U.S. able to make Iraq occupation work

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BY JAMES JAY CARAFANO

The torch was being passed. Speeches were made. The United States transferred sovereignty from the occupation authorities to the new postwar government. Critics railed, saying the day meant nothing—that nothing had changed. American troops, they said, were stuck in a quagmire. The enemy was getting stronger. Disaster loomed.

It was Sept. 21, 1949, in Bonn, West Germany. Today's critics seem to think it applies to June 28, 2004, in Baghdad.

Handing sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government will do little to quiet the debate. Critics are right when say June 28 isn't a terribly significant day. There may be more violence to come.

But they're wrong when they claim that, at best, America makes a different strategy to succeed in Iraq or, at worst, that U.S. efforts are doomed to failure. They have forgotten about Sept. 21, 1949, and the burden of doing the right thing during tough times.

There are four reasons why things haven't gone as well in Iraq as we had hoped.

First, the United States got a vote. In postwar Germany, poor organization and the collapse of planned Nazi opposition supported the Allies' task of reinstituting civil order. It was estimated, for example, that the Allies would face a guerrilla army of 40,000, an assessment that proved wildly inaccurate. The Germans had had enough of war. In Iraq, a witch's brew of ethnic extremists, former terrorists and unrepentant Baathists have not. It's not enough for a determined enemy with even a modicum of resources to undertake a protracted terrorist campaign.

Second, expectations were wildly unrealistic. Occupations are rarely easy. Yet as conditions in occupied Iraq worsened, administration officials tried to draw parallels to the difficulties of the postwar occupation of Europe, critics exhortated them for

being unhistorical. In fact, conditions in Germany were quite bad. Terrorism wasn't a major threat, but the displaced populations in postwar Europe (nearly 14 million by some counts), along with shortages of food and suitable housing, ethnic and racial tensions and the scarcity of domestic police forces, left many fearful of the future.

Third, the U.S. military's record as an occupying force has always been sketchy. The most important tradition governing how the Army undertakes these tasks is a "tradition of forgetting." The official report on the U.S. participation in the Rhineland occupation after World War I noted that "despite the precedents of military governments in Mexico, California, the Southern States, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Panama, China, the Philippines, and elsewhere, the lesson seemingly has not been learned."

As the Army prepared for the occupation of Germany after World War II, they didn't even have a field manual on the subject, and staff officers scoured the Pentagon library for the after-action report from the Rhineland mission. In Iraq, the Army is relearning lessons and "ad hocing" its way to success.

Fourth, mistakes were made. Planning was inadequate. Splitting responsibilities between the military and Jay Garner's Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Affairs was a mistake. The plan for fielding Iraqi domestic security forces was flawed.

Yet operations in Iraq are as likely to succeed as fail—because the United States is getting the most critical things right. There are three essential tasks for an occupying power: 1) avert a humanitarian crisis; 2) establish a legitimate government; and 3) field domestic security forces. In Iraq, the United States is making progress on all three fronts.

Coalition forces have achieved the first goal. Iraqis aren't starving or dying from plagues. Weeks before the handover, it was clear that a new government was going to

take hold backed by a solid international constitution. Even prospects for fielding an adequate military and police forces are starting to look good, with new U.S. military leadership, more-realistic plans and sincere cooperation from Iraqi leaders.

So the critics are right: June 28 was just another day. But they're right for the wrong reasons. U.S. strategy for the occupation is already back on track.

Much remains to be done. And there are no guarantees. ... (But) the terrorists aren't strong enough to stop democracy if the Iraqi leaders remain committed to living together in a united country and if coalition support remains strong. Absent the Soviet empire, history may take a new course this time and the troops won't have to wait 50 years to come home.

James Jay Carafano is a senior research fellow for defense and homeland security at The Heritage Foundation. He served 25 years of active duty in the U.S. Army.

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Sudan meets criteria; Will Old Europe act?

BY DALE MCFEATERS

Scripts Howard

It may be what is happening in the western Sudan province of Darfur doesn't meet as Secretary of State Colin Powell says, "the definition of genocide," but reports from journalists and aid workers make it clear that something terrible is going on, if not genocide, then certainly ethnic cleansing.

The international community has vowed that there would be no more Rwandas. But Darfur lacks the methodical slaughter of Rwanda, the figures are alarming enough, according to Western estimates: 30,000 dead, 1 million made refugees and 300,000 hungry to die this summer of starvation and disease.

The violence, sadly, is not new in Sudan, where there has been a running civil war between the Islamic and Arab north and the Christian and animist black south. Periodically, truces are announced and, just as periodically, broken. The largely Arab central government promises to end the fighting but never does.

Both Powell and U.S. Secretary-General Kofi Annan were in Sudan last week. They got the usual government promises of action and reform, but Annan forthrightly said it might take international troops to disarm and disband the militias, and there is a draft U.N. resolution pending to authorize them.

If the Sudanese government can't or won't act, and the threat of international

sanctions (the United States already has sanctions in place) doesn't work, then troops it must be.

The ideal solution would be to use troops drawn from the region, but they don't seem to have sufficient numbers and training. Thus, once again, the world will be standing around waiting to see what the United States does.

However, we are already engaged in two foreign military projects and really ought to finish them up before taking on anything new. But there are major nations fresh and rested from sitting on the sidelines that can and should take the lead in any intervention.

How about it, France and Germany? The criteria are there you said you'd need to intervene—a clear humanitarian crisis and a U.N. resolution. We'll hold your coats.

BY GARRY TUDOU



GB Andrews

OPINION

In Hamdi's defense, ruling makes fight fair

BY BRONWYN LANCE CHESTER

The Virginian-Pilot

NORFOLK, Va.

The Bush administration got a jolting reminder last week of what every seventh-grader knows: In America, everyone is entitled to his day in court.

And to look folks up and throw away the key takes more than a heavily-filled memo from a faceless droid at the Pentagon.

Over the weekend, many of us reread that great testament to mistrust of unchecked government power known as the Declaration of Independence. So it was appropriate that, a few days before the Fourth of July, the Supreme Court handed down its decision in the case of Yaser Esam Hamdi.

A Louisiana-born — that means he's a U.S. citizen — man of Saudi descent, Hamdi has spent the last 2½ years living in an episode lifted straight from the mind of George Orwell.

Picked up by Northern Alliance fighters in Afghanistan and accused of being a Taliban member, Hamdi was handed to U.S. authorities who promptly shipped him to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. When military officials got wind of his American citizenship, Hamdi was forwarded to the Norfolk Naval Brig, then routed to another military prison in South Carolina.

In his two years in the solitary slammer, Hamdi has never been charged with a crime. He has never been allowed to dispute — or even see — the government's evidence against him. That "evidence," by the way, turns out to be a flimsy two-page statement of hearsay from one Pentagon political appointee not present at Hamdi's capture.

Hamdi was denied access to a lawyer

until December. But even as his case wound its way to the Supreme Court, Hamdi's public defender remained unable to dispute even the government's facts; they remained classified.

Americans could be forgiven for thinking this sounds more like a Kafkaesque gulag than the Land of the Free.

On [June 28], the high court yanked the reins of President Bush's assertion that he possessed the unilateral power to throw terror suspects into a legal black hole indefinitely without charges. The court said Congress had indeed given Bush the power to detain enemy combatants. But he can't do so without affording them a hearing of some kind.

Bush can't saddle his latest *bête noire*, liberal "activist judges," with this decision. One of the court's most conservative justices, Antonin Scalia, joined perhaps its most liberal, John Paul Stevens, in saying Hamdi should either be charged with treason or released.

Score? Due process: 1. Unchecked presidential power: 0.

Hamdi's case has always had an air of "there but for the grace of God..." about it. In a vague undeclared war where the battlefield stretches from Kandahar to Key West, and where the feds have carte blanche to pick up and hold suspects forever, Hamdi's situation has given pause to many Americans.

U.S. citizen Hamdi was seized roughly the same time as another American, John Walker Lindh, who was found in the after-battle floss at Mazar-e Sharif. Hamdi, on the other hand, was turned over by Northern Alliance fighters who were paid a bounty for every "Taliban" they handed to Americans. Their assertion deserves scrutiny.

Our own government shouldn't fear our



own criminal justice system.

After all, Lindh was tried and now sits in prison, and our national security is still intact. Or did Lindh get his day in court because he's a fresh-faced, normal-named kid from California whose father is an attorney? Supposedly Hamdi was nabbed totting a rifle. Was he actually bearing arms against America? Or was he armed as a matter of course, as most men are in rural Afghanistan? Look, for all I know — for all anyone knows — Hamdi could have been an aid worker, as his father claims. Or he

could have been the brains behind Osama bin Laden's terror empire. We simply don't know.

But even sicko serial killer Ted Bundy had his day in court.

John Ashcroft's justice jockeys have tried to spin the Hamdi verdict as, incredibly, a win for the Bush administration.

Yet anything less than the Supreme Court's decision preserving the right of the accused to be heard — yes, even in the midst of a war on terror — would have been a sleeping loss for Americans' individual liberties in the name of collective security.

Opposing biotech gains is far from a sweet science

In their campaign to convince one and all that religious conservatives will be the death of us if their superstitions remain unexposed, certain members of the haughtily disdainful crowd will often close their eyes to left-

Jay Ambrose

supernatural — while only half grasping what it is the conservatives are saying.

Perhaps no better example of this ideological blindness exists than the outrage with which the disdainful have greeted President Bush's limits on federally funded stem-cell research —

stupid and cruel, we're told — and their simultaneous silence about the war of environmental extremists against biotech research.

I grant a powerful case can be made against Bush's policy. But is there nothing at all to be said for the concern of some of the religious and others about killing embryos for the purpose of treating people? Should there be no sensitivity whatsoever that there might be something human in this? Those questions might have little if any power with large numbers of people, but they are not exactly frivolous, and meanwhile, there are some underreported facts to consider. For instance, it's far from being a sure thing the research will pay off. Meanwhile, as at least some science writers also inform us, some impressive progress is already being made in adult stem-cell research, which presents us with none of the moral issues of the embryonic research.

What's also frequently ignored is that Bush's policy applies only to federally funded research. It has no effect on private research, and so it is that Stanford and Harvard are among the private institutions that have put together stem-cell research programs.

Look now at biotech, which through gene-splicing has the potential of vastly increasing crop yields around the world and thus attacking hunger, and which can also be used to create all sorts of medicines with potential curative ability that could outdistance anything that might come from stem-cell research. What's the position of Greenpeace, the radical environmental group? Bang this thing on the head. Kill it. Get rid of it.

True, biotech could pose some environmental and other risks, but risk is part of virtually everything we do in this life and there are all manner of governmental safeguards in place.

"We've been changing the food forever," said the renowned scientist James Watson in an interview with the Associated Press a couple of years ago. Taking note of all the plant breeding that went on prior to development of the gene-splicing technique, he is quoted as saying that today's regulation is "totally capricious and unnecessary" and as arguing that it "keeps people from coming up with things that would be useful."

Watson, of course, is the man whose Nobel Prize came from his discovery of the double-helix configuration of DNA. He told the

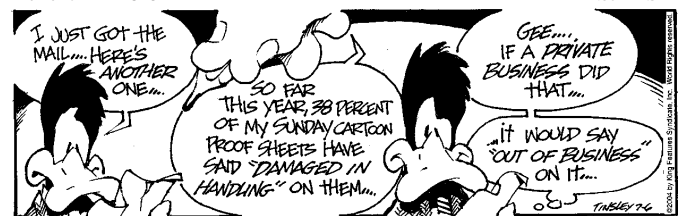
AP reporter he thought the environmental groups issued their scary warnings just to drum up membership. I disagree. I think many of these people are true believers frightened of modernity and the evils they associate with technological advance.

To be sure, there are people who favor both stem-cell research and biotech, and those who oppose both, and any generalization about ideologies won't hold true for all those subscribing to them. But what you see over and over is a self-righteous willingness to loudly belittle the right as unscientific and uncaring, even if the left is often more the culprit on these fronts.

Jay Ambrose is director of editorial policy for Scripps Howard Newspapers.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Seeking counsel

MA BOSTON — Lawyers who represent poor clients told the state's highest court they need higher pay to help end what they described as a crisis that's leaving defendants waiting in jail for weeks without representation. The justices questioned whether the court should get involved, but also grilled Assistant Attorney General Ron Kehoe about how to solve the problem.

Spidey-wannabe impaled

FL INVERNESS, Fla. — A 5-year-old boy impersonating Spider-Man crashed into a large statue of an elephant at his grandmother's home, impaling himself on a tusk.

Hunter Helton was recovering at home from the wound to his left hip. He was airlifted to Tampa General Hospital after emergency workers became concerned the ivory tusk might have hit a bone or an artery.

Hunter had was playing at his grandmother's home, imitating some of the Spider-Man's moves. But as he jumped around the den with his siblings and a cousin, the boy lost his balance and fell into a filing cabinet and then hit the heavy mahogany elephant his grandmother had purchased in Africa. Half the elephant's large ivory tusk broke off and got stuck in his body.

Doctors told the boy's mother that Hunter was lucky the injuries weren't more serious.

City snubs smoking

KS LAWRENCE — A new ordinance bans smoking nearly everywhere in Lawrence except private homes, smoke shops, some hotel rooms and open-air patios. Mayor Mike Rundle said most residents want the ban, but the Kansas Licensed Beverage Association promises to fight it. Other opponents are circulating a petition for a citywide vote.

Pared-down potties

CA SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — The City Council decided that \$658,000 for toilets was too much. The council's revised plans for a new downtown public restroom complex without a fancy promenade roof and stairs, a savings of up to \$85,000. The debate centered on how to provide restrooms for locals and tourists without them becoming a central attraction for homeless people.

Getting ready already

DC WASHINGTON — Summer vacation has barely started, but city officials are encouraging families to think about immunizations.

About 5,600 students need their shots updated before school starts in fall. Public school officials are working with city health officials to promote immunizations. Children's Hospital is distributing brochures and school supplies to children who come for well-child visits before July 15.

Tax-free shopping days

GA ATLANTA — From July 29 through Aug. 1, Georgia shoppers will be able to buy cloth-

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

ing, school supplies and computers without paying sales tax. The tax holiday exempts up to \$20 per school supply purchased, including dictionaries, notebooks, calculators and other classroom items. It covers clothing and shoes up to \$100 an item and computers up to \$1,500.

Mission accomplished

MO ST. LOUIS — A turnaround firm closed the books on its yearlong, protest-laced quest to restore the St. Louis school district's financial health. It said the system was tens of millions of dollars leaner because of "tough love" moves including school closures and job cuts. Critics said the firm soured the public because it seemed to make decisions in a vacuum.

Tainted mail

KS EDWARDSVILLE, Kan. — A couple has been accused of trying to kill the mayor of a Kansas City suburb and her husband with poisoned soda and cupcakes sent through the mail.

Donna Ozuna-Trout, 47, and Ralph Trout, 57, were charged Thursday with attempted first-degree murder.

They're accused of mailing poisoned food to the home of their neighbors, Mayor Stephanie Eick-

hoff and James Eickhoff, a lieutenant in the Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office.

The state has evidence linking Trout and Ozuna-Trout to the package, which contained a 2-liter bottle of soda and cupcakes spiked with chemicals including lye and antifreeze, prosecutor Nick Tomasco said.

Defense attorney Kevin Baldwin said he believes the evidence against his clients is circumstantial and won't be enough for a conviction.

Governor gets his way

KY FRANKFORT, Ky. — Gov. Ernie Fletcher can run state government under his own spending plan since the Legislature failed to pass a budget, a judge ruled. The state can operate based on the last budget the Legislature passed, but Fletcher can't undertake projects or programs not previously authorized by lawmakers. The Legislature adjourned without passing a budget for the next fiscal year.

Vegas monorail a go

NV LAS VEGAS — The city's monorail is back on track for a scheduled July 15 opening after nearly six months of costly delays.

The \$650 million project was scheduled to launch Jan. 20. A drive shaft problem and software glitches pushed back the starting date.

The monorail will run behind the hotels that line the Las Vegas Strip.

Lynx making comeback

CO DENVER — The number of kittens born to Colorado lynx this year has been confirmed at 30, an encouraging sign in the effort to restore the cat to part of its historic Western range.

So far, biologists know of 46 kittens born to lynx trapped in Canada and released in the southwest corner of the state since 1999.

The program's goal is a self-sustaining population of the long-haired, tuft-eared cats that disappeared from Colorado by the 1970s because of trapping, poisoning and development.

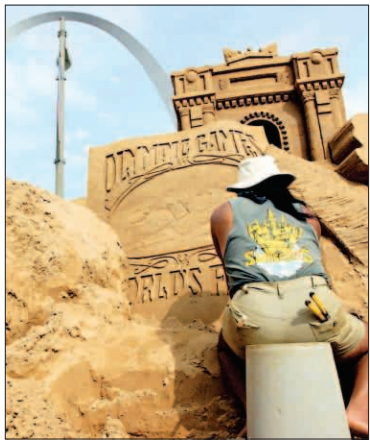
"This is just well beyond what many people expected just two years ago," Division of Wildlife spokesman Todd Malmbsbury said.

Crash kills five

NM WAGON MOUND — A man driving on a revoked license lost control of his truck and flipped it Saturday, killing five people, including the wife and son of a soldier serving in Iraq, police said.

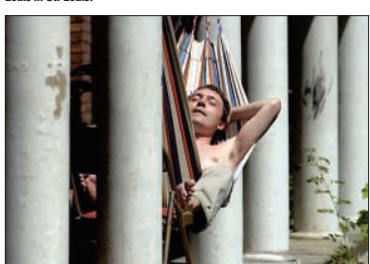
The driver, Mario A. Trujillo, 47, was the only survivor of the wreck, officials said. Trujillo was driving on a revoked license, State Police Lt. Pat Werrick said. Police said he had at least three prior drunk-driving convictions.

The victims, all from Wagon Mound, were identified as Esther Romero, 30, her son Matthew, 7, and Erminio Cruz, 45. Also killed were Toby Martinez and Billy Moree. Romero and her son were the wife and son of a National Guard sergeant serving in Iraq with the 720th Transportation Company, guard spokeswoman Maj. Kim Lally said.



A 'Fair' entry
Louis in St. Louis.

Alan Matsumoto helps to carve out a 75-ton sand sculpture with a 1904 theme at Fair St.



Lazy summer days
front porch.

Michael Pace of Missoula, Mont., relaxes in a hammock at his home's



Creative mowing

Mark Copeland mows his dad's yard in Sidney, Ohio. The hill poses a challenge, but with two ropes tied to the mower Mark makes it a breeze.



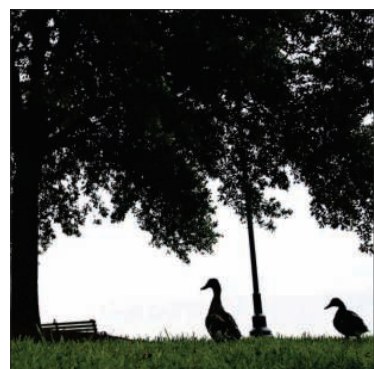
Following footsteps

A keelboat which is the flagship of the Discovery Expedition of St. Charles makes its way up the Missouri River south of Atchison, Kan. The re-enactors are retracing the route of the Lewis and Clark expedition to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the journey to explore the West.



Shadow puppets

A boy is seen silhouetted alongside a woman from the inside of a hot air balloon during the annual Balloon Glow in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.



A waddle through the park

Park as clouds overtake the sky in Charleston, S.C.

A pair of mallard ducks walk through Waterfront Park as clouds overtake the sky in Charleston, S.C.



Gone to the dogs

Kristen Cathey, 21 months, from Loveland, Ohio, keeps cool in water set up for the dogs to drink at the Symmes Township (Ohio) Park. The park hosted a Dog Parade to celebrate the new dog run and walking trail at the park.



Reliving history

Smoke fills the air as Union and Confederate re-enactors face off in the Battle of East Cemetery Hill during the 141st Gettysburg Anniversary Battle Re-enactments in Gettysburg, Pa.

A surprising salad

MA HANSON — Dorinda McCann is hopping mad over a toad she found in her salad.

McCann, 34, found the two-inch long toad in a takeout salad bought at a McDonald's in Hanson on June 16.

Both the restaurant's owner and the town health department are investigating, but McCann said she just recently heard from the owner, and she is still awaiting word from the health department.

Town health agent Vincent Flaherty said he is waiting to learn the origin of the toad.

Meanwhile, McCann, her husband, Thomas, and their two daughters, once regular McDonald's customers, have stopped going to the restaurant.

Some people never learn

IL VERSAILLES — Convicted bank robber Gordon A. Bryant might have had a better shot at his last hold-up attempt if he'd shown his face.

The 70-year-old put a stocking over his head before he tried to enter the Farmer's State Bank of Versailles, police said.

The bank had installed a system to buzz in customers after a holdup in February. Suspicious employees refused to unlock the door because the man was wearing the stocking.

Bryant was turned over to the FBI and charged with attempted bank robbery, special agent Nathan Williams said.

The sheriff said Bryant had served prison time for bank robbery and ought to be more competent by now.

"He's 70 years old; you would hope he would have learned by now," Brown County Sheriff Jerry Kempf said.

Big baby pleads guilty

NI MORRISTOWN — A man accused of job hunting at day care centers while clad in a soiled diaper and pink stretch pants will avoid jail time.

Authorities say William Rhode III, 53, unsuccessfully tried to get work at five different centers in four area communities on Feb. 12. He was arrested later that day and had been housed since then in the county jail's psychiatric unit.

Rhode had been indicted on seven counts of child endangerment. The county grand jury said his behavior constituted sexual conduct and that children at all five centers saw him. Rhode was freed after pleading guilty to a disorderly persons charge. He was sentenced to five years probation and must undergo a psychiatric evaluation and receive any recommended counseling. He also must stay away from children.

Chronic hiccups cured

LA NEW ORLEANS — It took more than holding his breath or a scare to cure Shane Shafer of his hiccups.

After seven months of constant, bark-like hiccups, a first-of-its-kind operation has returned normal life to the 50-year-old Texas man.

Shafer's speech is now a hoarse whisper — a side effect of the nerve stimulator implanted in Shafer's chest, one generally used to treat epilepsy.

But for the first time since November, he can eat, sleep and talk without a bark-like hiccup every three to four seconds.

In about 4 percent of patients, the device itself can cause hiccups. That wasn't really a worry, Lori Shafer said: "Nothing could have made them worse."

Police officer sentenced

NH DOVER — A former University of New Hampshire police officer has been sentenced to at least 20 years in prison after pleading guilty to molesting young boys.

Carl Sonne, 63, pleaded guilty to 15 molestation and pornography charges involving nine boys under the age of 13. The boys were under his care at his Rochester home.

He was sentenced to 20-to-40 years in prison.

7 defrauded banks

FL PENSACOLA — Seven people pleaded guilty to creating and cashing counterfeit checks that defrauded 12 banks of nearly \$10 million.

The defendants entered their pleas before U.S. District Judge Robert Vinson. Each faces up to 60 years in prison and fines totaling \$2 million.

The defendants, operating in 22 states, cashed their phony checks using fake identification, said U.S. Attorney Gregory Miller.

Sentencing was set on different days beginning Aug. 11 and lasting through October. Miller said the investigation was continuing and more indictments were expected.

Celebrating the chicken

RI LITTLE COMPTON — It's a celebration fit for a chicken.

The Little Compton Historical Society elected this year to recognize 150 years of the Rhode Island Red, a breed of chicken first developed here.

The society was calling its annual family day Farm Day this year because it includes a tribute to the chicken and to local agriculture.

The Red, now the official state bird, got its start when William Tripp bought a red cock off a whaling ship and bred it with his dung hill hawl.

The Little Compton celebration included the production of a CD of chicken-themed songs.

No more predictions

AL SLAPOUT — Beulah Farmer, 75, is selling her Twin Pines Grocery. It was the site of a straw poll that drew political strategists and journalists trying to predict who was going to be the next governor or even president. Voters in the rural voting district were known for an uncanny ability to predict the outcome of elections.

Closing center's doors

MD CROWNSVILLE — Crownsville Hospital Center is shutting its doors after almost a century, officials said. That will leave Maryland with only two primary residential facilities for the mentally ill. State Health Secretary Nelson Sabatini says the closure will create a more efficient system for treating the mentally ill and save the state \$12 million in annual operating costs.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Horoscope

Getting in touch with your feelings will be the focus, and you'll be surprised by intangible energy forces. The Placem moon and Cancer sun are two water-sign influences that stir the heart. And if you feel more eloquent in expression of your emotions, thank Mercury in Leo, lending the gift of flowery articulation.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 6). This year, you uncover abilities you never knew you had. Your creative input is key to making a project a success this summer. You'll be proud of what you've accomplished and may take a trip to celebrate in September. October brings romance.

You'll be making a long-term commitment. Favored signs are Pisces and Libra.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's a topsy-turly day. Power structures flip, plans reverse, and ideas turn in on themselves. Center yourself, or you could make bad decisions that will set you back for days! This afternoon, it's clear what you are attracting.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your way isn't the only way, and knowing that adds to the fun. You and a partner make beautiful music together, and the spirit of play is very much alive. Verbal sparring is innocent enough — and soxy, too.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're perfectly lovely as is. Don't feel you have to perform or force a dialogue where none naturally wants to occur. When you maintain a spacious mind-set, it doesn't seem necessary to try hard to impress anyone.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your leisurely pace is most effective — you are like a James Bond-type spy who never seems rattled by the prospect of a ticking bomb. It's surprising how much you can actually get done and still have time for a long, soft nap.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Persepective is the name of the game. Be sure to get a point of view that makes you feel powerful. Strengthen

your sense of discipline — crack down at work. Evening activities are as wholesome as raspberry iced tea.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Melodious interactions are featured. You're humming with the excitement of new friendships.

You may even call it infatuation. Take it slow, and learn all you can about new people. Tonight, reading can take the place of experience.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Practical plans can make the most outrageous or ethereal ideas come to life. Without the brick and mortar, castles are only built in the air, and who can live in those? Put your blueprint together. Tonight is about creativity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The stars mix up social values for you. Whatever gets accomplished will happen through personal relationships. Strictly business deals get moved to the back burner as you concentrate on helping friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're lit by the spirit of competition. Anyone who is up for the game won't take offense. Acting on your instincts is key. Otherwise, they won't serve you as well the next time. Who wants to talk to someone who doesn't listen?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Too many works in progress will be frustrating. Narrow your choices. Zero in on one project at a time, and finish, finish, finish! Employment seekers: Ceaselessly pursue your job search.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You don't fit neatly into any category — how wonderful! Be careful not to pigeonhole those you're dealing with today, either. They are true originals, just like you. Vibrant communication choices make you a magnetic force.

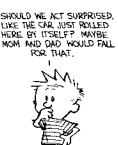
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The world is available to you, maybe even a little too available. If you can stop yourself from eating, drinking, spending and talking too much, this is a highly productive day. People who do business with you want you to succeed.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



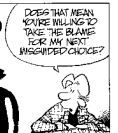
Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



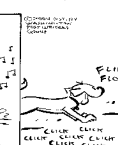
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



Better or Worse



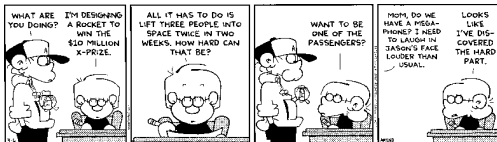
Peanuts



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Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



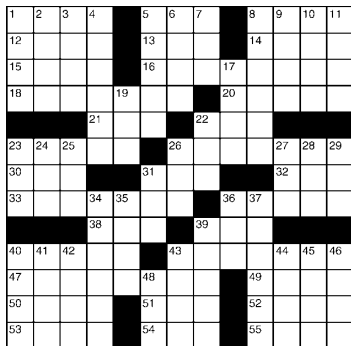
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 "Wheel of Fortune" option
- 5 Nevertheless, for short
- 8 Crafts' mates
- 12 Singer Braxton
- 13 Scull need
- 14 Marx lack
- 15 Killer whale
- 16 Butterfly-shaped flower
- 18 NBC mascot
- 20 Easy mark
- 21 Playwright Levin
- 22 Bracketed word
- 23 Huge
- 26 Pilot's place
- 30 Have a bug
- 31 Debtor's letters
- 32 Parisian pal
- 33 Tenacious dog
- 36 Shows shock
- 38 Wapiti
- 39 Gibson or Brooks
- 40 Vast expanse
- 43 Warmup area
- 47 Mark Twain and George Orwell, e.g.
- 49 Pennsylvania port
- 50 Advantage
- 51 "Rope-a-dope" specialist
- 52 Bygone times
- 53 Dovesb
- 54 Lobbyist org
- 55 Exceeded the limit
- 2 Skin opening
- 3 Ershwile
- 4 Peruvian
- 6 Nicotinic acid
- 7 Puccini heroine
- 9 War-monger
- 10 Mined-over matter
- 11 Scrap
- 12 Command to
- 13 33-Across
- 14 Engrossed
- 15 "Family" —
- 17 Dispatch a dragon
- 19 1990 Faith No More song
- 20 19 Scrap
- 22 52-centime coin
- 23 Space
- 24 Midafternoon, on a sundial
- 25 Model/across Carol
- 26 Pueblo's st.
- 27 — de deux
- 28 Mischief-maker
- 29 Frank McCourt bestseller
- 31 Sort
- 34 Conked with a pitch
- 35 Radius neighbor
- 36 Solidify
- 37 Keglers' mecca
- 39 Score
- 40 Tournament format
- 41 Reinquish
- 42 MIT grad, perhaps
- 43 Mr. Lugosi
- 44 Item on stage
- 45 Green acres?
- 46 Can't do without
- 48 Treasure seeker's aid

Answer to Previous Puzzle



Down

1

6

CRYPTOQUIP

DPGZT J AZPLS DCP'W
JZDJKW WXJEFN EGTSZK
JX PXCSE BSPBZS AS

LFPDF JW LUFN ZSSE?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A PERSON IS CRYING LOUDLY IN A PUB, THAT MIGHT BE CALLED A BARROOM BAWL.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals E

Marriage needs quick overhaul

Dear Abby: "Distancing in Washington" wrote that after 10 years of marriage and two daughters, she and her spouse are on the verge of divorce. You recommended Marriage Encounter.

Abby, her difficulty appears to be a bit beyond the scope of Marriage Encounter.

Marriage Encounter is for marriages in good shape looking to improve. I suggest she check into Retrouvaille.org. This international program was developed in 1976 by Marriage Encounter couples groups in Quebec, Canada, for the purpose of addressing serious marriage problems. Let me give you an analogy: Marriage Encounter is a tune-up for marriages NOT in crisis. Retrouvaille is an overhaul for marriages in danger of falling apart.

Retrouvaille places strong emphasis on the communications techniques needed to repair your marriage, including 12 post-weekend sessions of about

two hours each.

My wife and I have been involved in both programs. (All the people involved in Marriage Encounter and Retrouvaille are volunteers.) The steps in Marriage Encounter are romance, disillusionment and joy. In Retrouvaille, the steps are romance, disillusionment, misery and hope.

G.H. from Arizona
DEAR G.H.: Thank you for straightening me out. I would like to add that although Retrouvaille is a program under the umbrella of the Catholic Church, Catholic theology is NOT part of the program and a couple's religion (or lack of religion) is never a factor — nor is anyone's financial status.

Dear Abby



Dear Abby: My blood froze when I read the letter from "Distancing in Washington." She should run with her husband to their doctor and ask for a com-

plete physical exam with blood work. If he won't go, she should talk with his doctor.

My kind and gentle husband of 10 years sat me down a week ago and told me he's addicted to pain pills and has been for three years. Her letter scared me because that is how it all started in my marriage — with fights, loss of affection and physical contact. My friendly, well-educated, hardworking husband slowly turned into a withdrawn, exhausted stranger who snapped at the kids, ignored me and couldn't keep a job.

Please urge "Distancing" to seek help now — before she's in my position.

Knows Better Now in Maine
Dear Knows Better: Thank you for the reminder that changes in personality can indicate that something is medically wrong and should be brought to the attention of one's physician.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uspress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DUIHM

□ □ □ □ □

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GUAVE

□ □ □ □ □

SABBOR

□ □ □ □ □

NIGINN

□ □ □ □ □

Answer: □ □ □ □ □

Yesterday's

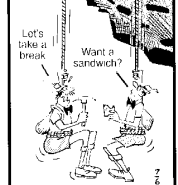
Jumbles: COCOA STOIC BEETLE CAVORT

Answer: What the saloon keeper took when the cowboys got rowdy — "COVER"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henry Arnold and Mike Argirion

The 800950 nos. have been DISCONTINUED



MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS WILL DO THIS WHILE THEY REST.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Returning troops need to adjust

Dear Annie: I wanted to weigh in on the comments from "Army Wife Who's Been There." She said returning servicemen need time alone with their wives and children before the rest of the family visits.

I did two years in Kuwait and Iraq and can verify that what most of us want to do when we first get home is "go hermit." After being surrounded by hundreds of fellow soldiers, you want the privacy and intimacy of your immediate family until you catch your breath and reacclimate yourself to a "normal" environment.

The first few days can be quite stressful, but in most cases, it lasts only a short time. Then you can't wait to see everyone.

Thankfully, I had an understanding circle of family and friends who tolerated my eccentricities.

— **Been All I Can Be**
Dear Been All: Welcome home.

Annie's Mailbox



Here's more:

Dear Annie: Returning soldiers can easily be overwhelmed by the littlest things. Don't bombard them with responsibilities and the minute they walk in the door, and don't be surprised if their personality has changed a bit. Please let military spouses know there is support for them. When soldiers are in the Reserve or National Guard, it is a little more difficult because we don't have the military communities like active-duty soldiers do. However, that is why we have family readiness groups. Spouses should take full advantage of these services.

— **Seattle**

Dear Annie: My son is in the Army and will be returning from Iraq next month for a two-week leave. He is not coming to visit any of his family here, but is

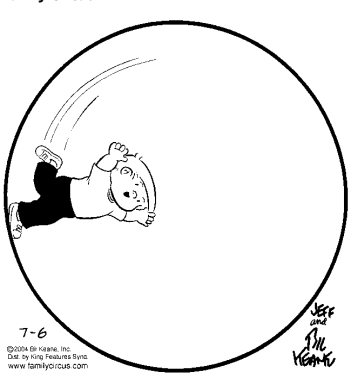
going only to visit his wife and kids. The rest of the family is not happy with this and has told him so. We have not seen him in over a year.

He married this girl in a rush before he went overseas, and none of us has met her or her children (from previous relationships). To her, we say: We have spent sleepless nights worrying about him. We have 20 years invested in your husband, so cut us a little slack if we want to see him when he returns.

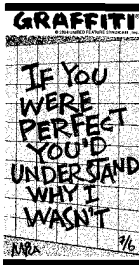
Illinois Mom
Dear Mom: Of course you want to see him, and he should make the time. But this is your daughter-in-law. Instead of competing, why not welcome her? Invite her to visit, or take a trip to see her. It's time you met your son's family.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

Family Circus



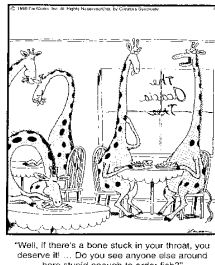
"Goin' around in circles is a lot easier than goin' around in squares!"



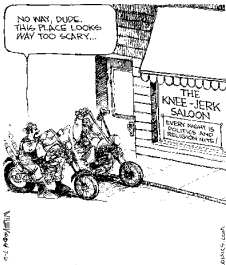
Dennis the Menace



The Far Side



Non Sequiter



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Autos for Sale 152

1994 Nissan Terrano - 4x4
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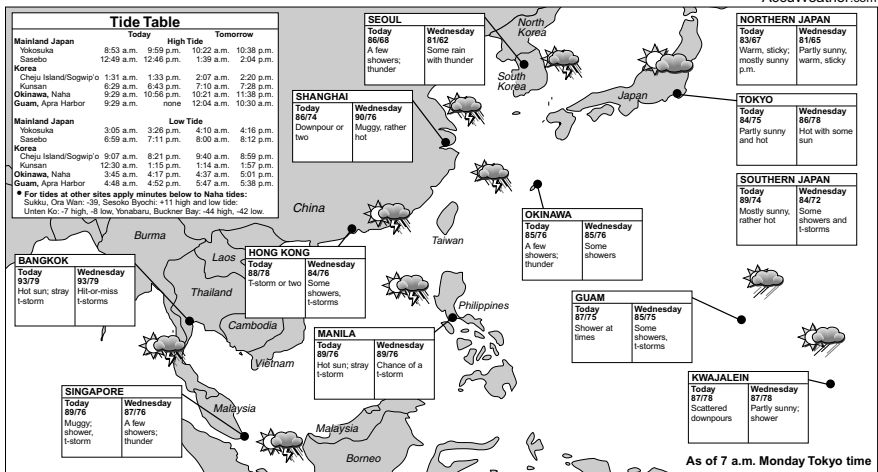
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The Pacific Forecast

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Extended Forecasts

TOKYO

Thursday: Partly sunny, high 89, low 77.
Friday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 87, low 76.

KADENA

Thursday: Showers, high 85, low 76.
Friday: Showers, high 83, low 74.

SEOUL

Thursday: Thunderstorms, high 82, low 67.
Friday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 83, low 65.

MANILA

Thursday: Showers, high 87, low 76.
Friday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 89, low 76.

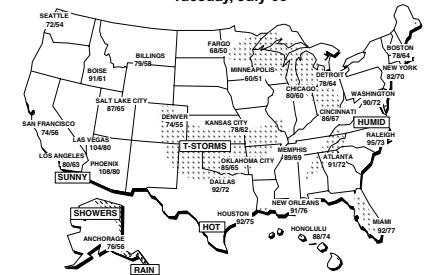
HAGATNA

Thursday: Showers, high 87, low 77.
Friday: Showers, high 87, low 77.

Sunday's USA Temperature

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	90/60	Los Angeles	78/63
Amarillo	98/64	Little Rock	94/74
Anchorage	71/56	Louisville	90/74
Ashville	83/64	Miami	90/79
Baltimore	84/69	Milwaukee	83/60
Birmingham	92/74	Nashville	93/73
Bismarck	66/51	New York	86/72
Boise	85/55	Omaha	88/70
Boston	76/63	Orlando	91/74
Brownsville	93/77	Philadelphia	89/71
Buffalo	86/66	Phoenix	105/78
Burlington	90/67	Pittsburgh	84/68
Charleston, SC	92/76	Portland, OR	77/56
Charlotte	90/69	Portland, ME	79/61
Cleveland	84/67	Salt Lake City	84/61
Columbus, OH	82/68	St. Louis	93/75
Duluth	70/49	San Antonio	95/74
El Paso	97/70	San Diego	71/66
Hartford	89/65	San Juan	88/77
Helena	73/49	Tampa	92/77
Indianapolis	85/69	Tulsa	97/72
Jacksonville	91/73	Washington	83/72
Kansas City	90/72	Wichita	96/69

Tuesday, July 06



U.S. Extended Forecast

Cool air will control much of the Plains and Midwest Tuesday and Wednesday. Afternoon temperatures will average 10 to 15 degrees below normal across the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The cool intrusion will trigger thunderstorms across the central and southern Plains. Strong temperature contrasts will help spark severe storms across Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri. A slowly moving storm will keep the Great Lakes under clouds and showers. Elsewhere, summertime heat and humidity will dominate the Southeast. Gusty afternoon thunderstorms will bring relief from the heat to Florida and the Gulf Coast. Tuesday, a storm will bring clouds and showers to parts of the Pacific Northwest. Sunshine will heat the Southwest into the triple digits.

Tuesday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	93/79	Iwakuni	89/75
Beijing	90/72	Kadena AB	85/76
Camp Casey	85/67	Kusan AB	87/72
Christchurch	51/36	Kwajalein	87/78
Diego Garcia	82/67	Manila	89/76
Hagatna	87/75	Misawa AB	88/70
Hanoi	96/81	Okinawa	85/70
Hong Kong	88/78	Perth	83/45
Honolulu	88/74	Pusan	84/71

Tuesday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Budapest	80/53	Kabul	100/65
Buenos Aires	65/45	Kiev	71/53
Cairo	106/73	New Delhi	107/91
Canberra	85/73	Oslo	63/45
Cape Town	70/52	Paris	69/50
Geneva	71/61	Rio de Janeiro	72/61
Montreal	84/68	Rome	90/70
Moscow	97/69	St. Petersburg	66/44
Johannesburg	60/35	Stockholm	64/44
		Warsaw	68/48



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TUESDAY EVENING / JULY 6, 2004

MOVIES

• **SPORTS**

[illegible]

JAPAN TV

Afternoon
12:30 V.I.P. (12)
1:30 *Movie* (1988): Bull Durham
(2000)(12)
3:12 Grand Sumo: Day 3 (1)
5:50 News (6)
Evening
7:00 News (1)
7:00 Japan Pro Ball: Yomiuri Giants vs. Yokohama BayStars (4)
7:25 What I Like About You (3)
10:00 News (1)
12:20 Grand Sumo Digest (1)
3:24 Animal Planet (6)
3:40 Classical Music (1)(r)

JAPAN TV (BS7)

Morning

6:00 World News
7:00 World News
8:00 MLB: Detroit Tigers vs. New York Yankees
11:00 Handicraft: Bird Feeder
Afternoon
12:00 CNN News
1:00 Cooking (r)
1:30 ABC News
2:00 PBS NewsHour
3:00 CNN News
4:00 World News
5:00 CNN News
5:25 ABC News
Evening
6:00 Japan Pro Ball: Fukuoka Daiiei Hawks vs. Seibu Lions
9:30 Football Mundial
10:00 MLB Highlights
10:30 Grand Sumo Digest: Day 3
11:00 BS News
11:30 Economic News
12:15 Athens Olympics Preliminary: 800m
Japan Swimming Championship

JAPAN TV (BS

Morning
10:00 Classical Music: Emily Beynon (flute)
Afternoon
1:00 Grand Sumo Tournament: Day 3 (bilingual after 4 p.m.)
Evening
7:00 NHK News
8:00 U.S. Movie (1994): Junior (1:55)
10:00 TV Series: Monk

WOWO

Morning
6:30 Oswald #24
7:30 TV Series: Friends
8:00 U.S. Movie (2001): My First Mister (1:57)
10:00 British Movie (2001): Enigma (2:00)

Afternoon
12:00 TV Series: Dawson's Creek
1:00 U.S. Movie (2001): The Mexican (2:10)
2:00 U.S. Movie (2000): The In Crowd (1:50)
5:30 Oswald #24 (r)

Evening
6:00 U.S. Movie (1988): The Fly II (1:50)
8:00 TV Series: Third Watch
9:00 TV Series: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
10:00 U.S. Movie (2002): The Hours (1:56)

MTV

Morning
6:00 Wake Up
7:00 Fresh Monday
8:00 Top Choice
10:00 Pure Music

MTV

11:00 Top Choice
Afternoon
12:00 The Osbournes: The Accidental Tourist
12:30 Making the Video: Shakira
1:30 Classic
1:30 Top Choice
2:00 Pure Music
3:00 Top Choice
4:30 Hip Hop, R&B Reggae
5:00 Top Choice
Evening
6:00 Street Tuesday
7:00 World Chart Express Supported by Honda
9:00 Top Choice
9:30 M Size All Request
10:00 YATAI
11:00 Movie Awards Post Show: 16and Special
11:30 Top Choice: Crystal Kay
12:00 Top Choice
12:30 Consensus: Fire Ball
1:00 M Size Street Tuesday
2:00 M Size All Request
2:30 Classic
3:00 After Hours

Federer: No. 1 wins third Grand Slam

FEDERER, FROM BACK PAGE

"He definitely has an aura about him, there's no doubt," Roddick said. "He's an unbelievable tennis player. People know that."

It was the first Wimbledon men's final in 22 years between the No. 1 and No. 2 seeded players, and it featured a contrast in styles between the cool, versatile Federer and the brash, power-hitting American.

"I proved that Roger is not quite invincible," Roddick said.

"He's pretty close, but I proved a lot to myself today. I thought I took it to him. I played the game the way I wanted to play it. I just came up short. It was a couple of points here and there."

The match was twice suspended by rain, the first time for 36 minutes with Federer leading 3-2 on serve in the first set. The second stoppage — which came with

Roddick up a break at 4-2 in the third and lasted 40 minutes — changed the momentum for good in Federer's favor.

After the break, the sun came out for the first time and Federer — who had been broken four times until then — won 24 of 28 points on his serve to go into the fourth set.

"I had to change some things," Federer said. "I came to the net more, and this is when the sunshine came at the same time, so I'm

happy I had just a great reaction."

The match swung Federer's way when he broke back for 4-4 in the third set, returning a 137 mph serve on break point and forcing Roddick to miss a forehand. Federer played at his best in the tiebreaker, getting two aces, a forehand crosscourt winner, a forehand volley and a backhand down-the-line passing shot. Roddick walked to the changeover with his head down.

Armstrong survives nervous first stage

By JOHN LEICESTER

The Associated Press

CHARLEROI, Belgium — Lance Armstrong played it safe and Jaan Kirispuu was the winner. It was mission accomplished for both riders in Sunday's first full stage of the Tour de France.

Saving himself for later stages, Armstrong finished comfortably back in the field. He is focused on winning a record sixth straight Tour, not scrapping for wins in the hazardous and fast-paced early stages of the three-week race.

A final all-out burst of speed secured Kirispuu's victory in the 125.5-mile trek that featured roads turned treacherous by rain.

There were crashes, crowds, wind, punctures and a mighty finishing sprint to contend with — all factors that make the Tour's first week the part that Armstrong relishes least.

Armstrong finished 48th on Sunday and is third overall. He will be looking to secure victory in the mountain climbs and time trials that come later.

But for sprinters like Kirispuu, an Estonian, the early stages are their strength, the reason they come to the Tour even though they have no prospect of overall victory.

Muscling his way through a gaggle of riders sprinting to the finish, Kirispuu edged Australian Robbie McEwen and Norway's Thor Hushovd.

"The sprint was incredible for me," Kirispuu said. "I am really, really happy."

The overall leader's yellow jersey stayed on the young shoulders of Fabian Cancellara, a 23-year-old Swiss rider who won the debut time trial on Saturday.

There were several crashes, the first less than nine miles from the start in Liege, Belgium. It threw off Italian rider Mario Cipollini, making his Tour comeback after four years away, as well as Spain's Oscar Sevilla and French rider Guillaume Auger. They all rejoined the race, although Sevilla needed a new bike.

Austria's Bernhard Eisel also crashed, touching wheels with a rider in front and falling heavily. He barrel-rolled across the wet tarmac and skidded to a stop in the roadside grass, but picked himself up to resume racing.

Another crash less than three miles from the finish in Charleroi, also in Belgium, unseated France's Nicolas Jalabert.

For Armstrong and other contenders for the Tour crown, avoiding such accidents is a priority.

Armstrong rode much of the race toward the head of the field with riders from his U.S. Postal Service squad. Their game plan was to "stay at the front, everybody together, try to protect Lance and make sure there's no big breakaways," teammate George Hincapie said. "Mainly to stay out of trouble."



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11. Best onsen/hot spring
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14. Best airline
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38. Best O Club

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49. Best seafood

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53. Best breakfast

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DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Yellow Box right fielder Jeffrey Cross races to catch a fly ball off a Pacific Force bat during Sunday's Firecracker Shootout.

Rain pushes back Firecracker playoffs

BY DAVE ORNAUER

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Bad weather Sunday night forced play to be suspended until Monday morning in the double-elimination playoff round of the 9th Firecracker Shootout Open Softball Tournament.

"We had no choice" but to suspend play because of lightning in the area, Foster Athletics director Curtis Brown said. "The most important thing is that the players are safe."

All but a handful of games remained to be played Monday, with women's playoffs resuming at 9 a.m. and men's at 11:30 a.m. The women's championship tentatively was set for 11:30 a.m. and the men's at 7 p.m.

"Hopefully, the weather will be kind to us and we can get the games in," Brown said.

The weather outlook was not as optimistic. Forecasters at Kadena Air Base's weather flight called for isolated showers and thunderstorms all day Monday, with the low front expected to move out on Tuesday.

Before play was halted, Yellow Box of Okinawa had reached its ninth consecutive final in the Pacific inter-service Grand Slam circuit dating back to the 2002 season. Yellow Box beat its perennial foe, Pacific Force, 6-4 in the men's winner's bracket final.

E-mail Dave Ornaauer at: ornaauer@stripes.osd.mil.

9th Firecracker Shootout

Foster Sports Complex, Camp Foster, Okinawa

Men's double-elimination playoffs

Sunday's games

Game 1-Pacific Force, Okinawa, 15, Misfits, Okinawa, 6

Game 2-Kadena Falcons, Okinawa, 5, Misawa Red Dawgs, Japan, 4

Game 3-Yokota, Japan, 9, Chinese Taipei, Taiwan, 8

Game 4-Pacific Force, Okinawa, 10, Prime Time, Okinawa, 0

Game 5-Misawa 15, Misfits 6; Misfits eliminated

Game 6-Chinese Taipei 8, Prime Time 6; Prime Time eliminated

Game 7-Pacific Force 12, Kadena 4

Game 8-Pacific Force 12, Yokota 7

Game 9-Chinese Taipei 4, Kadena 3; Kadena eliminated

Game 10-Pacific Force 12, Misawa 6; Misawa eliminated

Game 11-Pacific Force 4, Pacific Force 4

Game 12-Chinese Taipei 4, Yokota 2; Yokota eliminated

Game 13-Pacific Force 5, Chinese Taipei 0, first inning, suspended, weather

Monday's games

Game 14-Pacific Force vs. Chinese Taipei, completion of suspended game

Game 15-Pacific Force vs. Pacific Force 4

Game 16-Pacific Force vs. Chinese Taipei 12

Women's double-elimination playoffs

Sunday's games

Game 1-Rock Phins, Okinawa, 7, Cherry Bombs, Okinawa, 4

Game 2-Torri Tides, Okinawa, 7, Pacific Heat, Okinawa, 4

Game 3-Kadena Falcons, Okinawa, 13, Rock Phins, 1

Game 4-Kadena Outkast, Okinawa, 13, Torri Tides, 4

Game 5-Rock Phins 14, Pacific Heat 7; Pacific Heat eliminated

Game 6-Torri Tides 9, Cherry Bombs 4; Cherry Bombs eliminated

Game 7-Kadena Falcons 16, Kadena Outkast 9

Game 8-Rock Phins 3, Torri Tides 1, third inning, suspended, weather

Monday's games

Game 9-Rock Phins vs. Torri Tides, completion of suspended game

Game 10-Pacific Force vs. Rock Phins vs. Torri Tides

Game 11-Kadena Falcons vs. Game 9 winner

Game 12-Kadena Falcons vs. Game 9 winner, if Kadena Falcons lose Game 10

Edmonds returns in style with homer for Cardinals

Center fielder returns after bout with pulled groin

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Jim Edmonds returned to the lineup with a home run and three RBIs and Jason Marquis (6-4) pitched effectively before and after a 1-hour rain delay as the NL Central-leading St. Louis Cardinals beat the Seattle Mariners 8-1 on Saturday.

Albert Pujols hit a two-run homer and Edmonds, sidelined eight days by a groin injury, started in center and went 2-for-3.

Boone homered and Randy Winn had two hits for the visiting Mariners, who have lost nine of 12.

Marquis (8-4) followed the lead of Woody Williams, who was solid before and after a 2-hour rain delay on Friday. Boone's 11th home run was the only damage against Marquis in the first 2 1/3 innings, and after the delay Marquis gave up only two hits the rest of his outing.

Athletics 6, Giants 2: Mark McLemore's tiebreaking RBI single sparked a four-run ninth for visiting Oakland.

Barry Bonds went 1-for-2 with two walks, snapping his streak of home runs in four straight games in which he had an at-bat. He has 119 walks this season and 2,189 for his career, one shy of Rickey Henderson's record.

Damian Miller's RBI double tied it in the eighth for the A's, who broke it open in the ninth against Matt Herges (4-3).

Justin Duchescher (4-1) pitched two scoreless innings as Oakland best its cross-bay rivals for the second time in five games this season.

Devil Rays 6, Marlins 1: Victor Zambrano (9-4) gave up four hits in seven shutout innings and drove in his first career run.

The visiting Devil Rays improved to 30-10 since May 20 and moved two games over .500 (40-38) for the first time since starting the 2002 season 3-1.

The Marlins have lost four straight and 11 of 15.

Red Sox 6, Braves 1: Curt Schilling pitched a six-hitter, Nomar Garciaparra homered and Doug Mientkiewicz had a grand slam for visiting Boston.

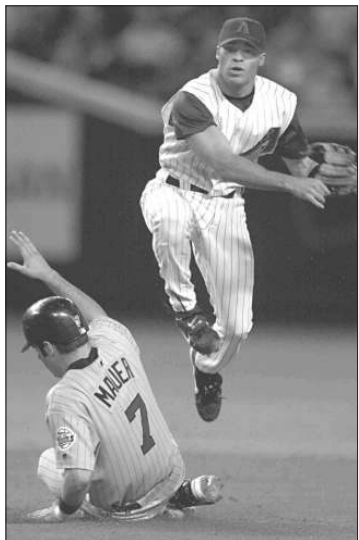
Johnny Damon also connected for the Red Sox.

Schilling (11-4) struck out 10 and walked one in his second complete game this season and the 81st of his career. Boston ended a four-game skid and won for only the fourth time in 13 games.

Reds 4, Indians 2: Paul Wilson won for the first time in more than a month and D'Angelo Jimenez hit a two-run homer.

Wilson (8-2) held visiting Cleveland to two runs in 6 1/3 innings, allowing eight hits with six strikeouts and two walks.

Danny Graves pitched a per-



Arizona Diamondbacks second baseman Scott Hairston, right, leaps to avoid sliding Minnesota baserunner Joe Mauer and complete a double play in the fifth inning of Saturday night's game. The Twins won 8-4.

fect ninth for his major league-leading 31st save in 38 opportunities.

Phillies 7, Orioles 6: Pinch-hitter Tonya Perez hit an RBI single in the eighth inning. David Bell's two-run homer off Jason Grimsley (3-5) tied it 6-6 in the eighth, and Perez won it off B.J. Ryan.

Picardo Polanco and Mike Lieberthal also homered for the NL East-leading Phillies.

Rheal Cormier (4-3) allowed one run in 1 1/2 innings. Billy Wagner finished for his 12th save in 14 chances.

Astros 10, Rangers 8: Morgan Ensberg hit a grand slam, and Mike Lamb and Raul Chavez each drove in two runs for host Houston.

Alfonso Soriano and Gary Matthews Jr. both hit three-run homers in the fifth, giving the Rangers a 6-1 lead before the Astros came back with seven in the bottom of the inning.

Blue Jays 2, Expos 0: Roy Halladay showed his Cy Young form, allowing five hits over seven innings in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Eric Hinske went 4-for-4 and scored twice on RBI singles by Chris Gomez.

Rockies 11, Tigers 6: Vinny Castilla hit two RBIs and Preston Wilson ended a slump with a two-run homer.

Padres 5, Royals 4: Adam Eaton took a no-hit bid into the eighth inning, only to have visiting Kansas City rally for four runs in the eighth to tie it. Khalil Greene's sacrifice fly in the bottom of the inning won it.

Twins 8, Diamondbacks 4: Doug Mientkiewicz drove in three runs with a home run and double. Luis Rivas and Joe Mauer also homered for the visiting Twins.

Dodgers 8, Angels 5: Adrian Beltré hit two of his team's homers, and host Los Angeles scored in each of the first five innings. Eric Gagne converted his 84th consecutive save.

Pirates 5, Brewers 3: Randall Simon's opposite-field double drove in two runs to break a sixth-inning tie and host Pittsburgh won its eighth in a row.

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Tonight's Emails

Mets sweep Yankees to win Subway Series

BY MIKE FITZPATRICK
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ty Wigington's second homer snapped an eighth-inning tie, Richard Hidalgo connected for the fourth straight game and the New York Mets finished off their first Subway Series sweep with a 6-5 victory over the New York Yankees on Sunday.

The surprising Mets took four of six from their crossstown rivals this after going 0-6 in 2003. It's the first time the Mets have won the season series since interleague play began in 1997.

As Braden Looper got the last three outs in the ninth, Mets fans among the sellout crowd of 55,437 chanted "Sweep! Sweep!" That surely wasn't the present Yankees owner George Steinbrenner played for his 74th birthday.

The Yankees played the game under protest after Jorge Posada was called out when hit by Miguel Cairo's batted ball while run-

ning for first to second. Mets first baseman Mike Piazza had dived for the ball in front of Posada.

Orber Moreno (2-1) got the win despite giving up Posada's tying single in the eighth.

Wigington hit a two-run shot in the second to put the Mets ahead 3-0, but the bullpen blew two leads. With the score 5-5, Wigington sent a drive over the left-field fence off Tom Gordon (2-3) leading off the eighth, his 10th homer this season and third in two games.

Hidalgo homered off Felix Hernandez in the seventh to give the Mets a 5-4 lead, but Hideki Matsui opened the eighth with a double and scored on Posada's single.

Looper finished for his 16th save in 18 chances, pushing the Mets two games over .500 for the first time since Aug. 3, 2002.

They have won four games in a row and 13 of 19 overall.

The Mets had never done better than a split of the season series against the Yankees, much less a sweep of any individual series.



A sign held up by a New York Mets fans tell it all after a 6-5 victory over the Yankees on Sunday that gave the Mets a weekend sweep and a 4-2 win in the six-game Subway Series.

Pirates' run reaches nine; best since '96

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Chris Stynes, in a season-long slump, drove in three runs with a homer and two-run double and the Pittsburgh Pirates ran their longest winning streak since 1996 to nine games by beating the Milwaukee Brewers 6-2 on Sunday.

Stynes hit his first homer since Sept. 3, when he played with Colorado, and had a go-ahead two-run double in a fourth-inning tie game. Stynes began the game with a .209 average and only 13 RBIs in 139 at-bats.

Jack Wilson also hit a solo home run as the Pirates extended their longest winning streak since they won 11 in a row Sept. 12-22, 1996. They also went 7-0 during a homestand against St. Louis and Milwaukee, their first unbeaten homestand of that length since August 1990.

Jose Mesa got the last two outs for his 21st save in 22 chances, striking out both batters he faced.

Atlanta's nine-run uprising leaves Sox feeling low

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Derek Lowe gave up eight runs in 4 1/2 innings, and the Atlanta Braves rode a nine-run fifth to a 10-4 victory over the Boston Red Sox on Sunday.

Lowe (6-8) was given a 4-0 lead but couldn't hold it. He has lost three straight starts, allowing 17 earned runs as his ERA soared to 6.02.

Boston has dropped eight of 11, falling to 28-31 since April, and is 18-23 on the road this year with losses in seven of its last eight games away from Fenway Park.

J.D. Drew hit a tiebreaking, two-run double, Chipper Jones chased Lowe with a two-run homer and Charles Thomas had a two-run triple off Jimmy Anderson as the Braves sent 13 batters to the plate in the fifth and went on to win for the eighth time in 11 games.

Mike Hampton (3-8) recovered from his early struggles and wound up allowing four runs and nine hits in 6 1/3 innings.

Phillies 5, Orioles 2; Bobby

Sunday baseball

Abreu homered and drove in three runs and Eric Milton became the first 11-game winner in the National League.

Abreu went 2-for-4 with his 17th homer and a two-run double for Philadelphia, which took two of three in the series and improved to 5-2 on its current 14-game homestand.

Milton (11-2) pitched six-plus innings and joined Boston's Curt Schilling and Texas' Kenny Rogers for most victories in the majors.

Tim Worrell closed the game with his ninth save in 12 chances.

Sidney Ponson (3-12), who leads the majors in losses, dropped his club-record ninth consecutive start.

Cardinals 2, Mariners 1: Jeff Suppan (7-5) pitched fourth ball into the eighth inning and Jim Edmonds threw out a runner at the plate in the fourth, helping the host Cardinals complete a three-game sweep.

The NL Central-leading Cardinals finished 11-1 in interleague play, the best in the majors in the eight years that the AL and NL have been playing.

Edmonds, who returned to center field Saturday after a week-long absence due to a groin injury, made the defensive play of the game to end the fourth. He charged the ball on Jolbert Cabrera's two-out single and threw to the plate on the fly, catching Bret Boone trying to score from second.

Reds 5, Indians 4 (11): Tim Lincecum's run-scoring single in the 11th inning sent the host Reds to a victory set up by Cleveland's dependable bullpen.

Indians relievers blew a three-run lead in the eighth before the Reds won it in extra innings.

D'Angelo Jimenez took a called third strike from Rick White (3-3) with the bases loaded and two outs in the 10th, a temporary reprieve.

Ken Griffey Jr. started the winning rally with a leadoff single in the 11th.

Todd Jones (6-2) pitched the 11th and matched his career high for wins.

Expos 6, Blue Jays 4: At San Juan, Puerto Rico, Shawn Hill (1-1) got his first major league victory, pitching five innings, striking out six and allowing one run on six hits in his second big league start.

Joe Horgan struck out Reed Johnson with the bases loaded for his first career save after the Blue Jays scored three runs in the ninth off Chad Cordero.

Tony Batista and Carl Everett each drove in two runs for Montreal.

Ted Lilly (7-5) went five innings, giving up three runs — two earned — on seven hits and striking out seven.

Rangers 18, Astros 3: Mark Teixeira and Hank Blalock became the first Rangers to hit grand slams in the same game, lifting visiting Texas to a rout of the Astros.

Teixeira added a solo shot in the eighth, Kevin Mench also had

two homers among his career-high four hits and Alfonso Soriano hit a two-run home run as the Rangers closed out their interleague, in-state series against Houston, scoring their most runs in a game this season.

Teixeira hit his slam in the ninth inning off Chad Harville and Blalock was pinch-hitting in the sixth when he connected to give the Rangers their first two grand slam game since the Washington Senators moved to Texas in 1972.

Rockies 10, Tigers 8: Vinny Castilla celebrated his 37th birthday with four RBIs and Royce Clayton also drove in four runs as host Colorado tied a club record by overcoming an eight-run deficit.

Castilla went 1-for-5 with a three-run double and an RBI groundout. Clayton went 2-for-5 with a bases-loaded triple and an RBI single.

Shawn Chacon struck out Ivan Rodriguez with two runners on to end the eighth inning and pitched the ninth for his 17th save in 23 chances.

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Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League										National League									
East Division					Central Division					West Division					NL East				
W	L	Pct	GB	Diff	W	L	Pct	GB	Diff	W	L	Pct	GB	Diff	W	L	Pct	GB	Diff
New York	50	63	.443		Chicago	43	54	.443		Philadelphia	43	57	.432		St. Louis	49	57	.461	
Boston	39	66	.370	10.5	Cleveland	39	61	.389	10.5	San Diego	37	63	.369	10.5	San Francisco	37	63	.369	10.5
Tampa Bay	34	64	.345	13.5	Minnesota	29	67	.300	13.5	Los Angeles	34	64	.345	13.5	Colorado	31	68	.313	13.5
Baltimore	44	48	.520		Seattle	35	55	.389	13.5	Oakland	34	64	.345	13.5	Pittsburgh	31	68	.313	13.5
Central Division										West Division									
Chicago	35	54	.395		San Diego	37	63	.369	10.5	Los Angeles	34	64	.345	13.5	Colorado	31	68	.313	13.5
Minnesota	29	67	.300	13.5	Oakland	34	64	.345	13.5	Pittsburgh	31	68	.313	13.5	St. Louis	49	57	.461	
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Mallon surges ahead to win Women's Open

BY DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

SOUTH HADLEY, Mass. — Merely a bystander during so many great moments in women's golf, Meg Mallon celebrated one of her own Sunday in the U.S. Women's Open. Mallon had the lowest final round by a champion in the 59-year history of the Women's Open, a 6-under 65 that allowed her to erase a three-shot deficit against Jennifer Rosales and leave Annika Sorenstam in a hopeless pursuit to catch her.

Not even the best in women's golf stood a chance on a steamy day at Orchard Golf Club.

Mallon finished at 10-under 274 for a two-shot victory over Sorenstam. It was her fourth career major, and she earned \$560,000 from the richest purse in women's golf.

Thirteen years after she won the Women's Open at Colonial in scorching heat, Mallon again blistered the field by avoiding bogey over the final 25 holes and riding a hot putter that showed up just in time. She made a 50-foot birdie putt on No. 4 to gain momentum and an 18-footer that curled in on the 11th hole to take the lead for good.

The last of her 25 putts in the final round was a tap-in for par that set off a wild celebration with her family.

The cup looked like a bucket, and it was a great day for that to happen," Mallon said.

Mallon, born in Massachusetts and beloved by all, has been privy to some magical moments on the LPGA Tour over the last several years.

She played with Sorenstam when the Swede became the first woman to shoot 59. She was with Juli Inkster when she won the LPGA Championship to complete the Grand Slam. She played with Dottie Pepper at the Nabisco when she set the

59TH U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP		HOLE 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 RD																	
LEADERS	PAC	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	RD
7 ROSALES	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	70:67
4 MALLON	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	73:69
3 ROBBINS	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	76:67
3 SORENSTAM	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	76:69
3 YESKE	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	76:67
4 JANG	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	77:66
1 DUNN	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77:67
1 KUNG	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77:67
1 HURST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77:67
2 REDMAN	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	77:67

Meg Mallon celebrates after putting out on the 18th green to win the U.S. Women's Open Golf Championship on Sunday. Mallon won with a 10-under-par 274.

LPGA major championship scoring record at 19 under par.

This time, she made history of her own. The 13-year gap between Women's Open wins is the largest in history. And the final round was one for the ages, breaking by one shot the previous best round by an Open champion, set by Juli Inkster two years ago at Prairie Dunes.

Just like then, Sorenstam was the runner-up by two shots and wondered what hit her. She birdied the final two holes for a 4-under 67 that made Mallon to play hard to the very end, but she still had to settle for the consolation prize.

"I thought I put on a good performance today. It's all I could do," Sorenstam said.

Kelly Robbins was the main challenger on the back nine until a bogey on the 15th. Robbins, who lost in a three-way playoff last year at Pumpkin Ridge, closed with a 69 and finished third.

Rosales made her first bogey at No. 7 and quickly fell apart. Starting the final round with a three-shot lead, she closed with a 75 and finished fourth.

The teenagers never had a chance, but they put on a good show.

Fourteen-year-old Michelle We of Hawaii and 17-year-old Paula Creamer tied for low amateur at 1-over 285. They finished in a tie for 13th, making them exempt for next year's Open at Cherry Hills in Denver.

Wie shot 73, her first round over par in a major this year. Creamer shot 73.

Mallon put on a sterling show on the greens, nine times taking only one putt. One of those wasn't even on the putting surface. Her only mistake came on the 15th hole when she missed the green on the short side to the right, and fluffed a chip to the collar of the green.

Wie's 25-foot par putt was gaining speed when it hit the cup and dropped. The gallery erupted with cheers, and Mallon raised her arms as if to apologize, shaking her head as if she couldn't believe it.

No one saw it coming, least of all Rosales.

The high-strung Filipino came out firing, full of fiery emotion.

She ran up her approach to 5 feet on the opening hole and already was warming up her fist-pump when the putt fell for birdie.

"Yeah!" she screamed as it dropped, as if it were championship point at Wimbledon. That quickly built her lead to four shots, and it looked as if the final round might be a runaway.

It was — but not for Rosales.

Mallon started her amazing charge with a high flop shot from the fairway on the par-5 third that landed softly on the ridge and stopped 3 feet away for birdie. Then a third hole that showed it might be her day a 50-foot putt from the back of the fourth green.

She finished her front nine with a wedge that span back to 30 inches for birdie that gave her a one-shot lead over Robbins, with Sorenstam closing in.

Rosales was solid with pars, but as soon as she lost her first shot — a three-putt bogey from the false front of the seventh green — it fell apart quickly. She bogeyed two of the next four holes, and missed short birdie putts on the other two to slip three shots behind.

"I'm still in a shock," Rosales said. "Meg played awesome."

Ames, Hensley lead Western

The Associated Press

LEMONT, Ill. — Stephen Ames shot a 7-under 64 for a share of the third-round lead in the Western Open with Mark Hensby.

Ames, from Trinidad and Tobago and now living in Calgary, Alberta, matched Hensby at 9-under 204 on Cog Hill's Dubsbreed Course. Hensby, from Australia, shot a bogey-free 67.

Ames and Hensby better watch their backs, though, because Tiger Woods is making a move. A day after flurrying with the cut, Woods rebounded with a 6-under 65 to pull within four shots of the lead.

Geoff Ogilvy (68) is one stroke behind the leaders. Stuart Appleby (67) and second-round co-leader Steve Lowery (70) are tied for fourth at two strokes back.

Ames, whose best finish this year was third at the Colonial, closed his bogey-free round with birdies on his last four holes, saving the best for last.

He went from bunker-to-bunker with his second shot, leaving himself almost 50 feet from the pin. But he held on, and the crowd yelled so loud it could be heard on the opposite side of the course. Ames raised his arms in triumph before climbing out of the trap.

Starting the day a stroke off the lead, Hensby made three birdies on the front nine and a fourth on the par-5 15th to climb to the top.

He had to scramble on his last two holes



Stephen Ames raises his arms in celebration as his shot from the bunker finds the hole on No. 18 in the Western Open.

to stay there, making two beautiful up-and-downs that had fellow Aussie and playing partner Ogilvy calling him "Seve Hensby."

Pate on top in Long Island Classic

EAST MEADOW, N.Y. — Jerry Pate took a two-stroke lead into the final round of the Champions Tour's Long Island Classic, shooting a 4-under 66 for a 10-under 130 total.

Pate, the 1978 U.S. Open champion whose PGA Tour career was cut short by a series of shoulder injuries, is in his first year on the tour for players 50 and older.

Bobby Wadkins (68) was second, and Tom Jenkins (66) and Mike Hill (67) were another stroke back.

Goosen's lead trimmed to one shot

STRAFFAN, Ireland — U.S. Open champion Retief Goosen won the European Open by five strokes Sunday, finishing with a 4-under-par 68.

Goosen, who had a one-shot lead through three rounds, finished at 13-under 275. He didn't bogey a hole Sunday.

Report: Jones' ex-coach turned in THG steroid vial

The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — The former coach of three-time Olympic champion Marion Jones was the mystery man who gave anti-doping officials a used syringe filled with a new steroid, touching off the scandal now clouding preparations for the Athens Games, a newspaper reported Saturday.

In a story posted on its Web site, the San Jose Mercury News said that five sources identified Trevor Graham as the coach who submitted a vial of the steroid THG to the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency in June 2003. The newspaper said the sources spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Graham has been questioned by federal agents as part of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative case, which has led to indictments against four men and doping allegations against several top athletes — including Jones and baseball's Barry Bonds, both of whom repeatedly have denied drug use.

Graham long has been suspected as the source of the vial that kick-started a probe of BALCO that already was under way at the time. USADA officials have said for months that a prominent track and field coach supplied them with the syringe and said it came from BALCO, but have refused to name that coach.

U.S. women blank Canada

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Heather Mitts scored off Mia Hamm's corner kick in the 73rd minute to give the U.S. Women's soccer team a 1-0 victory over Canada 1-0 on Saturday night.

Sports briefs

The goal, Mitts' first in international play, helped the United States improve to 3-0 on its six-game exhibition tour leading up to the Athens Olympics.

Women's wrestling scrapped after Islamic protests

DHAKA, Bangladesh — Bangladesh's first women's wrestling competition was called off moments before the start Sunday following protests from Muslim fundamentalists who termed the event "vulgar and indecent."

Some Islamic groups threatened to storm the arena to block the competition, announced the postponement but told The Associated Press, "we will organize it again in a few months time."

Tabir Rahman, general secretary of the Bangladesh Amateur Wrestling Federation, announced the postponement but told The Associated Press, "we will organize it again in a few months time."

Camacho keeps title hopes alive

BILLOXI, Miss. — Hector Camacho unanimously outpointed Clint McNeil in a 10-round middleweight fight Saturday night to keep his world championship hopes alive.

The 42-year-old Camacho (78-5-2) hopes to face WBO junior middleweight champion Daniel Santos.

Gordon tastes sweet success in Pepsi 400

Nextel Cup star posts back-to-back victories

BY MIKE HARRIS
The Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Jeff Gordon has that winning feeling again.

A week ago, it was nearly total domination on the road course at Sonoma. Saturday night, it was a powerful victory in the Pepsi 400 at Daytona International Speedway's big oval, a win that has Gordon thinking about a fifth NASCAR championship.

"Things are feeling pretty darn good right now," Gordon said. "What a way to get momentum and be strong week in and week out on totally different race tracks."

Gordon and Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jimmie Johnson finished 1-2, leaving the favored Dale Earnhardt Inc. duo of Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Michael Waltrip — and everyone else behind.

"Wow! Wow! Wow!" Gordon said. "This is a big one. What an awesome show by Hendrick Motorsports."

It was Gordon's second victory in a row, fourth of the season and 68th of his career. He also became the first driver to win this race from the pole since Cale Yarborough in 1981.

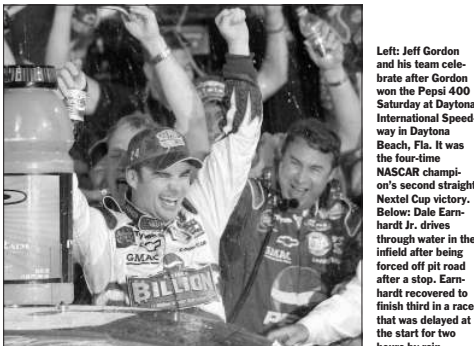
Gordon, who wound up leading a race-high 61 laps, gave series leader Johnson a lot of credit.

"He gave me a push out there that no one else out there would have given me," Gordon said. "I owe this win to him and I owe him a push and the next time I'm going to give him one."

Gordon, already the leader among active Nextel Cup drivers in victories at Daytona and Talladega, the tracks where NASCAR requires horsepower-robbing carburetor restrictions to keep the cars under 200 mph, came up with his eighth plate victory and second in a row.

At Talladega in April, Earnhardt, considered by many the guy to beat in every plate race, was mounting a late challenge to Gordon when a caution flag with three laps remaining gave Gordon the victory, bringing a wave of cheers and seat bumping raining down on the track from unhappy Earnhardt fans.

This time, there was little question. Every time he got behind, Gordon was able to work his way back to the lead, while Earnhardt came up short at the end.



AP photos



With Johnson, whose car Gordon owns, giving him a solid push, Gordon's No. 24 Chevrolet took the lead for the final time on the 1.54-mile of 160 laps on the 2½-mile oval, passing Tony Stewart and pulling away.

It finished with Johnson 0.143 seconds — about two car-lengths — behind, followed by Earnhardt, Kurt Busch, Stewart, Mark Martin, Bobby Labonte and two more Hendrick drivers, Terry Labonte and rookie Brian Vickers.

Waltrip, who combined with Earnhardt to win five of the previous seven Cup races at Daytona, dominated early, leading five laps for 57 laps, but fought an ill-handling car and wound up 13th.

Stewart, who was fined \$50,000 earlier in the week for hitting Vickers in a post-race altercation last Sunday at Sonoma, was nowhere near the lead until late in the race. He took the

top spot on the last series of pit stops when his Joe Gibbs Racing team put on only two tires while the other leaders took four.

Earnhardt, who had a slow stop and had fallen to eighth, got all the way to second on lap 149 before slipping back into the pack again. Meanwhile, Gordon and Johnson looked up and went after Stewart, moving past him easily 17 laps from the end.

Johnson, with Earnhardt looming in his mirrors, tried to make a move on Gordon, but couldn't catch him.

"Jeff's on his game and he knows how to do this plate racing," said Johnson, who hurt his chances of a victory when he slid through his pit on his last stop and nearly slid into the pit wall.

Johnson came out of the race with the same 27-point lead over Earnhardt he had going in. Gordon is third, 232 points back.

Pepsi 400

NASCAR Nextel Cup Series
Saturday
At Daytona International Speedway
Daytona Beach, Fla.
Lap length: 2.5 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

1. (1) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 160, 1:59.175
2. (19) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 160, 1:59.538
3. (5) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 160, 1:59.538
4. (35) Kurt Busch, Ford, 160, 1:54.225
5. (3) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, 160, 1:54.225
6. (21) Mark Martin, Ford, 160, 1:58.375
7. (15) Bobby Labonte, Chevrolet, 160, 1:58.375
8. (10) Terry Labonte, Chevrolet, 160, 1:58.375
9. (14) Brian Vickers, Chevrolet, 160, 1:59.175
10. (6) Joe Nemechek, Chevrolet, 160, 1:54.225
11. (24) Casey Mears, Dodge, 160, 1:58.375
12. (3) Ryan Newman, Dodge, 160, 1:58.375
13. (2) Michael Waltrip, Chevrolet, 160, 1:58.375
14. (11) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 160, 1:58.375
15. (23) Dave Blaney, Chevrolet, 160, 1:58.375
16. (4) Dale Jarrett, Ford, 160, 1:51.817
17. (16) Greg Biffle, Ford, 160, 1:51.817
18. (34) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 160, 1:57.425
19. (23) Robby Gordon, Chevrolet, 160, 1:59.862
20. (5) Sterling Marlin, Dodge, 160, 1:51.817
21. (25) Scott Riggs, Chevrolet, 160, 1:51.817
22. (20) Jeremy Mayfield, Dodge, 160, 1:57.425
23. (20) Jeff Burton, Ford, 160, 1:59.862
24. (31) Kyle Petty, Dodge, 160, 1:58.075
25. (18) Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 160, 1:51.817
26. (20) Elliott Sadler, Ford, 160, 1:59.862
27. (27) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 160, 1:51.817
28. (20) Kerry Earnhardt, Chevrolet, 160, 1:59.862
29. (40) Jimmy Spencer, Chevrolet, 159, 1:57.425
30. (30) Jeff Green, Dodge, 159, 1:58.075
31. (30) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, 160, 1:58.075
32. (3) Scott Wimmer, Chevrolet, 159, 1:58.075
33. (43) Morgan Shepherd, Dodge, 157, 1:56.000
34. (42) Larry Gurnader, Ford, 156, 1:57.425
35. (27) Ken Schuster, Dodge, 151, 1:57.425
36. (12) Brendan Gaughan, Chevrolet, 156, 1:57.425
37. (31) Jamie McMurray, Dodge, 126, 1:56.000
38. (30) Ricky Craven, Chevrolet, 121, 1:57.425
39. (30) Matt Kenseth, Ford, 110, 1:56.000
40. (18) Ward Burton, Chevrolet, 84, 1:56.000
41. (41) Mike Wallace, Dodge, 77, suspension
42. (28) Bobby Hamilton Jr., Chevrolet, 41, suspension
43. (18) John Andretti, Dodge, 41, accident

Race Statistics

Time of race: 4 hours, 45 minutes, 23 seconds.
Margin of victory: 0.143 seconds.
Winner's average speed: 145.117 mph.
Fastest laps: Five for 25 laps.
Lead changes: 21 among 10 drivers.
Pit leaders: J. Gordon 15; M. Waltrip 10-15; K. Kahne 30; M. Waltrip 21-42; E. Earnhardt Jr. 46; N. Newman 47; M. Waltrip 48-54; E. Earnhardt Jr. 55-72; M. Waltrip 73; M. Shepherd 74; J. Gordon 75; M. Waltrip 86-88; J. Gordon 89-107; M. Waltrip 108-113; E. Earnhardt Jr. 114-137; J. Gordon 138-149; M. Waltrip 150-151; J. Stewart 152-153; J. Gordon 154-160.
NASCAR Nextel Cup Series standings: 1. Johnson, 2,545; 2. E. Earnhardt Jr., 2,311; 3. Gordon, 2,131; 4. Stewart, 2,283; 5. Kenseth, 2,136; 6. Blanton, 2,136; 7. Newman, 2,112; 8. Harvick, 2,095.

IRL's Rice edges Miera by razor-thin margin in Kansas

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Buddy Rice, Kansas never got a chance. Dario Franchitti was fourth, followed in the top 10 by Bryan Herta, Adrian Fernandez, Helio Castroneves, Hornish, Dan Wheldon and Alex Barron.

With Rice inside and Meira outside, side-kick Dario Franchitti was fourth, followed in the top 10 by Bryan Herta, Adrian Fernandez, Helio Castroneves, Hornish, Dan Wheldon and Alex Barron.

Racing roundup

With Rice inside and Meira outside, side-kick Dario Franchitti was fourth, followed in the top 10 by Bryan Herta, Adrian Fernandez, Helio Castroneves, Hornish, Dan Wheldon and Alex Barron.

Schumacher wins French GP

MAGNY COURS, France — Michael Schumacher won the French Grand Prix on Sunday for his ninth victory in 10 Formula One races this season, holding off a strong challenge by the Renault team.

Renault, led by Fernando Alonso

so of Spain, managed to end Ferrari's string of three straight 1-2 finishes. Alonso, a rising Formula One star, held the pole position and was runner-up, 8.3 seconds behind.

Schumacher's Brazilian teammate Rubens Barrichello, despite starting from the 10th position, passed Renault's Jarno Trulli of Italy on the final lap to place third.

This was Schumacher seventh victory in the French GP and 79th in his Formula One career. The German has 90 points for the season and Barrichello is second with 67.

Edwards comes back from early crash, wins truck race

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Carl

Edwards came back from a first-lap accident Saturday to win the Craftsman Truck Series race at Kansas Speedway, his second victory of the season.

Edwards' Ford failed inspection after the O'Reilly Auto Parts 250 because it did not meet the minimum height requirement. NASCAR confiscated some parts of the truck and planned to return them to its research and development center in North Carolina.

Points leader Dennis Setzer never recovered from another early crash in the most caution-filled trucks race in the series' four-year history.

He finished 25th and his lead over Edwards in the standings dropped from 131 points to 34, with Bobby Hamilton 61 points

off the lead after his second-place finish Saturday.

Bourdais dodges trouble, defends Cleveland GP title

CLEVELAND — Sebastian Bourdais took the lead after a first-lap crash in the second race that knocked out polester Paul Tracy, then ran away to win his second straight Cleveland Grand Prix on Sunday.

After avoiding a chain-reaction accident just seconds into the race involving Alex Tagliani and others, Bourdais dominated to win by 15.130 seconds over Bruno Junqueira, his Newman-Haas teammate.

It was Bourdais' third victory in five Champ Car events this season. Tagliani finished third, 27.584 seconds back.

SPORTS

Twice as nice



Mets earn first
Subway Series sweep
with 6-5 win, Page 28



Defending champion Roger Federer, reacts at match point against Andy Roddick in the Wimbledon final on the Centre Court Sunday. Federer won the match 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 (3), 6-4 to retain the title. Federer is the first men's player to repeat as champion since Pete Sampras in 2000.

Federer holds off Roddick to defend Wimbledon title

BY STEPHEN WILSON
The Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — Roger Federer overcame Andy Roddick's brute power game Sunday to win his second straight Wimbledon title and cement his status as the game's No. 1 player.

The top-seeded Swiss star withstood Roddick's huge serves and forehand winners, winning 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 (3), 6-4 for his third Grand Slam title and 24th consecutive victory on grass.

After a rain delay, Federer came from a break down at 2-4 in the third set and took charge by playing a brilliant third-set tie-breaker. He saved six break points in the fourth set, broke Roddick at love in the seventh game and finished the match with his 12th ace.

When his final 124 mph serve flew past Roddick, Federer dropped to his knees at the base-

line and arched all the way onto his back.

He got up and smacked a ball into the crowd. Roddick came around the net and the players hugged. Federer appeared to be in tears as he sat on his court-side chair.

After receiving the trophy from the Duke of Kent, Federer kissed it and raised it over his head to a huge ovation from the Centre Court crowd.

"Somehow I feel even more joy this year because I had so much pressure going into this tournament," he said. "Now to see my name on the board enjoyment I kind of get more joy out of this."

It was Federer's third win in three Grand Slam finals. He won the Australian Open in February.

"I kind of like it — the 100 percent record in Grand Slams," he said. "These are the ones that really, really count. Grand Slam tournaments put you just a set higher.

To have won my favorite tournament already twice in my career is incredible."

Roddick, the U.S. Open champion, gave Federer full credit.

"Roger just played too good today," he said. "I threw the kitchen sink at him, but he went to the bathroom and got a tub."

Federer, who beat Roddick in the Wimbledon semifinals last year, is now 6-1 against his top rival.

"I'm going to have to start winning some of them to call it a rivalry," Roddick said.

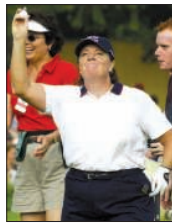
Federer, 22, is the first men's champion to successfully defend his title since Pete Sampras won his seventh and final championship in 2000. His 24-match grass-court winning streak is the second-longest ever, behind only the 41 consecutive matches won by five-time Wimbledon champion Bjorn Borg.

SEE FEDERER ON PAGE 25



Gordon wins at
Daytona with help
from teammate

Page 31



Mallon shoots
record low final
round to win
U.S. Open

Page 30



Report: Jones'
ex-coach turned in
steroid vial

Page 30



Andy Roddick tries to play a return to Roger Federer in the Wimbledon final on Sunday.

Armstrong third overall after first stage of Tour Page 25

